

# The Middlebury Campus

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Since 1905



Courtesy

## LADY PANTHER HARRIERS CEMENT A NATIONAL DYNASTY

Alexandra Krieg '09 holds aloft the NCAA Division III national championship trophy earned by the Middlebury women's cross country team. The championship was the team's fifth in the last nine years.

## 51 Main hosts McCardell call to "mend or end" 21

By Jaime Fuller  
News Editor

John M. McCardell, President Emeritus of the College and Director of Choose Responsibility, was the guest speaker at the inaugural run of "The Forum at 51 Main" on Nov. 18, giving a talk titled, "The 21 Year-Old Drinking Age: Mend It or End It?" The Forum seeks to improve town-gown relations by encouraging debate between members of the College and the Middlebury community.

Dean for Faculty Development and Research and Rehnquist Professor of American History and Culture Jim Ralph opened the event by offering a gracious introduction to the speaker, as well as explaining the Forum's mission.

"We hope that these events will bring together town and gown to discuss important issues in a convivial setting," Ralph said. "The inspiration for the Forum came from classical Greece, where the Athenians would gather together in open marketplaces to discuss and debate issues of the day."

McCardell served as the 15th president of Middlebury College from 1992 to 2004, and continues to teach classes about the American Civil War as a member of the College's History Department. In December 2006, he founded Choose Responsibility, an organization that wishes to foster national debate about the drinking age, which was the topic of the discussion for the evening. He also has spear-

headed the Amethyst Initiative, an outgrowth of Choose Responsibility focused on culling support for Choose Responsibility's mission

SEE MCCARDELL, PAGE 2

## College plans to revamp Web site

By Tim O'Grady  
Staff Writer

This past spring President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz appointed an Internet Strategy Task-Force to explore the various ways in which Middlebury's Web site could be improved. The task-force released a report formally addressing the problems and shortcomings of the College Web site, as well as recommendations to how the Web site could be enhanced.

Acting upon the recommendations laid out in this report, Li-

ebowitz charged the Middlebury Web Makeover Team, which has been holding meetings this Fall, to reconceptualize the College's Web site. The group is currently contacting faculty, staff, students, donors and other groups to learn what currently works and how the Web site can be improved to better suit the needs of the College's diverse community.

Input from the College's various groups is the most crucial ele-

SEE WEB, PAGE 2

## Winter Carnival plans crystallize

By Adam Schaffer  
Staff Writer

A handful of students gathered in the Crest Room on Nov. 20 to begin planning the 2009 Middlebury College Winter Carnival. The event, which will carry the theme of "Fire and Ice," will take place from Feb. 19 to Feb. 21.

The meeting was led by committee co-chair Derek Sakamoto '10 and past organizer Nick Sohl '10 to build a base of support for the planning and execution of next year's Carnival.

"Right now we're looking to get people interested and to join the committee," Sakamoto said.

The committee, which differs from the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) in that it is responsible for the outdoor and daytime events rather than the nighttime parties, is planning a number of activities that embrace the bitter cold of the Vermont winter.

"I want to enjoy winter more, that's why I want to get out there and get involved," said Jaehye Yoon '11, who intends to help plan this year's Carnival.

Ellen Dahlberg '12 feels the same, explaining in an e-mail that she wants to help with next year's Carnival because "it seems only natural that we should celebrate [the snow] and make winter fun instead of just complaining about

how bone-chillingly cold the walk down to class is."

Thanks to an extensive appeal effort undertaken by a number of students last year, the administration decided to keep the traditional schedule, with no class on the Friday of Carnival, allowing the weekend to kick off Thursday night with a fireworks show and bonfire on the lawn in front of Hadley.

The group has been looking at microfilm from old issues of *The Middlebury Campus* to try to "bring back a sense of tradition to the event," said Sohl. Nevertheless, organizers are still looking to get some new ideas from the student body.

With the schedule still tentative, the weekend will most likely include a variety of outdoor activities.

The "Northern Lights relay race" will happen again this year, consisting of snowshoeing, human dog sledding, regular sledding and a tug of war.

There will also be another snow sculpting contest. Reigning champion Alex Benepe '09 is expecting stiff competition this year for himself and his team, as "it is very hard to come up with a good, catchy idea that is actually doable," he said.

Other possible activities in-

SEE CARNIVAL, PAGE 3

## Seniors select gift for '09 Class to fund Woodstove Lounge renovation

By Cloe Shasha  
Staff Writer

On Nov. 15, the College threw the seniors a Two Hundred Days Party. While a total of 550 students socialized and sipped cocktails, the senior class gift was announced: a donation towards the renovation of Woodstove Lounge in the Proctor Dining Hall.

The event was a fundraiser organized by the senior class committee, and 127 people donated gifts at the party. Co-chairs of the Senior Class Committee Siddharth Baveja '09 and Eva Nixon '09 are still in the process of raising funds for this senior class gift.

"The class decided to give a gift to the College that would alleviate some of the College's costs during these difficult economic times," said Baveja. "After the renovation is complete, the Woodstove Lounge is going to be functional as a student space that will be part of the dining hall during the day and a performance or gathering space during the evenings."

Some students, however, thought that the senior class gift

survey was written in a way that was biased towards selecting the Woodstove Lounge option.

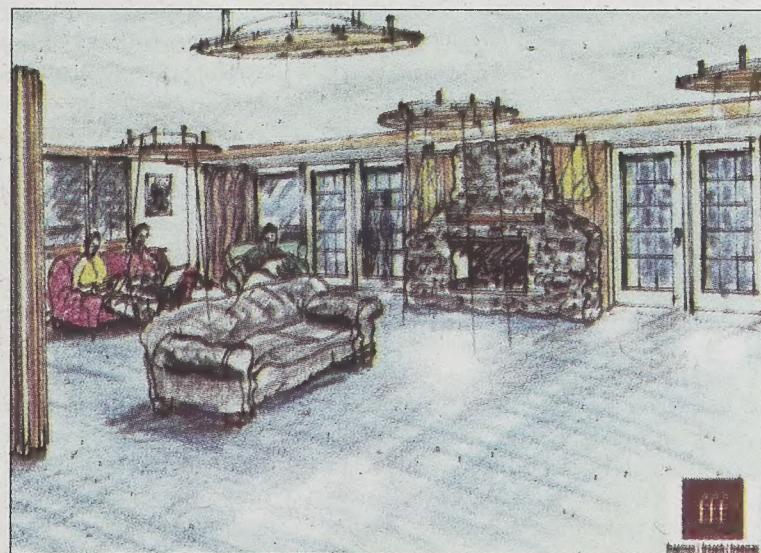
"All the other options on the survey had more vague descriptions without a detailed explanation," said Adam Volwiler '09. "The Old Stone Mill gift was what I voted for."

Elisabeth McMorris '09 felt

that some of the other options on the survey may have been more worthwhile selections because the College already plans on renovating the Woodstove Lounge.

"I really like Proctor, but I think that we could have helped the College more by donating towards

SEE DONATIONS, PAGE 2



Courtesy

Amid renovations to Proctor Dining Hall, the building's Woodstove Lounge will be overhauled as part of a gift from the class of 2009.

this week



**Yay localvory!**  
Middlebury lays out a community spread, page 6.



**Already panicking?**  
Get the lowdown on staying sane and finding love for finals, page 12.

**Dramatic Epiphany**  
"Twelfth Night" dazzles Wright Theatre audiences, page 16.







## overseas briefing

### Ruminations on a semester abroad

by Sara Black '10

I am writing you from the cloudy skies above Buenos Aires in the first minutes of flight 1804 to El Calafate in Patagonia. The clouds clear out as we rise and leave the city behind, heading south. The pampa spills out below like a patchwork quilt, falling away to the glassy blue of the Atlantic. A bit nostalgically dramatic, but justifiably so, as my semester in Buenos Aires comes to an end.

Looking back, Buenos Aires had been a compulsive choice that I made at the last minute without any clear motivation or direction. Today I credit my luck to the mystical hand of fate, not being able to imagine living in a more amazing city.

As dictates study abroad policy, I knew I would be staying with a host somewhere in the city. After two years of relative independence at Midd, I wasn't sure how I felt about it and some of the past evaluations of homestays were not very convincing. Fortunately, I wasn't given too much time to worry about the transition.

Three hours after landing at Ezeiza International Airport I found myself in a linguistic fog and exhausted, sitting in the lobby of an Argentine airport not knowing whom we were visiting or why we were there. It turned out my host grandmother was ill and didn't trust the doctor, so we were there to calm her down and bring her pajamas.

And so it was destined by the oh-so thorough housing form that I inherit something akin to "My Big Fat Greek Wedding," but with all the high-pitched drama of a Spanish telenovela, and less lamb and more beef.

I am not kidding about the last part. The average Argentine eats their weight in meat every year. My host mom usually comes home from the meat market with half a cow, the half that includes all of the grizzly innards that we bland Americans shy away from, rightfully so.

My host mom, dad and brother are the only ones who officially live in the house, but there are always the assorted cousins, aunts, uncles, friends and their pets that stop by at anytime of day or night, or call to see what we are eating or to inform us that laundry detergent is two for one at the supermarket. With such a large extended family that all live close by, it seems like we are always celebrating something--birthdays, graduation from kindergarten, Jewish holidays, catholic holidays, even Obama's election.

The child of a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. army, I never had the luxury of forming or keeping such relations with one place. Ironically, in the four short months I spent in Buenos Aires I have acquired great aunts to have afternoon coffee with, cousins to gossip with, uncles to talk about soccer with, aunts to make gnocchi with and a host mom who reminds me to wash my clothes.

It all seemed so arbitrary last spring, but now it just feels like home.

# McCardell pitches for "Amethyst"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

from college presidents. So far, McCardell has been successful in obtaining signatures of support from 134 college presidents nationwide, and he continues to speak at colleges that have not yet joined in the debate, such as American University, Purdue University and St. Michael's College.

McCardell sought immediately to clarify one of the points of his mission that the mass media tends to distort.

"The Associated Press reported that the Amethyst Initiative signers all wanted to lower the drinking age," he said. "This is simply not true. The purpose of the Amethyst Initiative is simply to put our proposition before the public."

McCardell has been working tirelessly to get this issue on the national agenda, not only speaking to audiences at college campuses, but also trying to find support in both the state and federal governments. This effort included speaking before the New Jersey State Senate Education Committee on Monday, in a hearing called to address the proposition set forth by the Amethyst Initiative. Senate President Richard J. Codey called the Amethyst Initiative "crazy," but McCardell achieved his goal by simply encouraging the legislators to discuss the topic.

Codey is not the only person with public prominence to oppose the ideas set forth by Choose Responsibility. McCardell has faced a host of organizations with national visibility that do not support his mission. The chief antagonists to Choose Responsibility include Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the American Medical Association and the Women's Christian Temperance Union, which bestowed upon Choose Responsibility the 2008 "Millstone Award," which seeks to "bring awareness to a person, organization or governmental body that creates conditions or uses their position of influence to promote unhealthy, illegal or immoral behavior that we believe places children at risk."

"There were three contenders for the Millstone Award," joked McCardell. "We beat

out unisex bathrooms and internet porn."

Despite the dissent, McCardell posed a strong case for why his proposition would be a boon to the nation. He began his presentation by drawing on his historian background with a look at the Prohibition Era.

"One would assume that an amendment prohibiting alcohol consumption, to be successful, would mean no one was drinking," he said. "In fact, polls show that in the 1920s, the percentage of those drinking were drinking recklessly and secretly."

By 1933, there was a consensus that the 18th Amendment was no longer fulfilling its purpose, and that it needed to be repealed.

McCardell then drew a parallel between the ineffectiveness of the 18th Amendment and the current drinking age, stating, "Once you start down that road, thinking the law doesn't apply to you, where does the logic stop?"

He then pointed out a strange coincidence, where the Prohibition was enacted in the 18th Amendment and repealed in the 21st. McCardell continued by offering a wealth of statistics that supported his proposition.

There has been a 36 percent increase in binge drinking by 18-20 year olds between 1993 and 2001, and 90 percent of all alcohol consumed by underage drinkers is consumed during binge drinking. Each year, 5,000 young people under age 21 die as a result of underage drinking, but more than 60 percent of these deaths occur off the highways.

"There was a time when I thought I was alone in being concerned with this problem," McCardell said. "But we had a professional polling group conduct a survey, and 86 percent of the public think binge drinking is a problem."

The United States is unique in their choice of the seemingly arbitrary 21 as the drinking age, an age restriction followed in only three other countries: Indonesia, Mongolia and Palau.

"We may be further along in our Darwinian progression than the rest of the world in choosing this age," said McCardell, "or we

may be missing out on something."

He then cited the 19-year-old drinking age in Canada as in support of his conclusions.

"One would expect to see carnage on Canadian highways, but patterns [of alcohol-related fatalities] are nearly the same as in the United States."

Choose Responsibility advocates for a number of changes that they feel will be helpful in remedying this national problem. These include a congressional waiver of the highway funds incentive, a permit that allows 18-year-olds to consume alcohol in the presence of their parents and a mandatory alcohol education course more comprehensive than those used now. McCardell said that current alcohol education resorts to "temperance lectures and scare tactics," and that "if all you say is 'if so much as a drop of alcohol passes your lips, you're headed for a life of dependency,' you are in trouble."

There are also the more obvious arguments for the 18-year-old drinking age, such as the fact that 18 is the age of majority in the United States, where people are allowed to enlist, marry, open a bank account, vote and purchase firearms.

Co-Head of Brainerd Commons Marita Schine, who attended the event, was unsure if there wasn't something more propelling students to irresponsible social drinking.

"I am not positive that the changes that [McCardell] proposes will solve the problem," she said. "I think there is an underlying problem involving extremism."

Associate Dean of College and Visiting Assistant Professor of Art History Katy Abbot agrees with McCardell that the most important part of his mission is to spark discussion.

"[His proposal] inherently makes a lot of sense," she said. "The Amethyst Initiative is the most important part for the College, because it starts the discussion."

This vibrant discussion that arose after McCardell's talk is exactly what he sought to provoke, and he believes that colleges, like Middlebury, will embrace the changes he seeks.

"This [proposal] will make colleges more accountable," he said. "I think they will gladly accept greater accountability because social life will be out in the open and faculty will be able to moderate responsible alcohol consumption. It will also encourage an increase in intergenerational social interactions ... and people learn most about responsibility in these settings."

## Web site might reflect student tech-literacy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ment of this initiative since members of the College community utilize the Web site most frequently. Student input is especially valued, because students are the Web site's primary audience and younger people generally have a better idea of the power and possibilities of the Web.

"Students are Web natives — they've grown up with the Web as part of their information environment," said Mike Roy, Dean of Library and Information Sciences, in an e-mail. In the near future the group will be holding public discussions, setting up various focus groups and distributing surveys to better identify the needs of students, faculty and staff.

Middlebury community members are also encouraged to visit <http://blogs.middlebury.edu/webredo/> where they can read about the initiative and participate directly in the site makeover. Anyone can comment about posts written by Web Makeover Team members or e-mail their own ideas for improvement.

According to the task-force's report, the primary problem with the current Web site is that the layout is very uniform and static. The site is not very interactive and does not incorporate enough multimedia features. Additionally, the current structure does not fare well with the various constituencies that utilize the Web site. Prospective students, current students, faculty members and alumni all use the Web site for very different reasons,

but there is little room for customization to suit each group's specific needs.

Another problem addressed in the Internet Strategy Task Force's report is that the site does not highlight the artistic work and scholarly findings published by faculty members and students. Many Middlebury students, alumni and faculty members have private sites showing their work, but there is very little linkage between these sites and the College's site. The Task Force addressed the need to consolidate Middlebury affiliated content on the Web so that users can access all of the information via the Middlebury Web site instead of using various satellite sites.

"There is so much value to be realized from the Middlebury network and the experiences people have had — we hope to capture some of that value via the Internet," said Mike Roy.

The site's last major facelift occurred in several phases over the course of 2003-2005. The first stage was the implementation of Microsoft CMS, the software used to manage the site, which was first used in 2003. Later, the College hired BigBad, a Boston-based Web design company, in the end of 2003 which worked in collaboration with LIS to redesign and restructure the site. Throughout the 2004-2005 academic year, every College office and academic department was incorporated into the new design structure, completing the Web site's makeover.

The Web Makeover Team expects the launch date for the first phase of the project to be in Sept. 2009.

## Donations to overhaul Woodstove

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a different goal," McMorris said.

But the majority of seniors voted for the Woodstove Lounge, and the fundraising continues towards this gift. According to Nixon and Baveja, Middlebury has launched its fifth annual alumni participation challenge: if the alumni office manages to get 60 percent of alumni to donate, an anonymous donor will contribute one million dollars to the senior class gift fund.

The senior class committee set a 96 percent participation goal for current seniors because an anonymous donor promised to match every senior donation with 100 dollars, regardless of the size of the gift.

"The senior class gift is a time-honored tradition at Middlebury, and it is meant to foster a bond between the outgoing class and the College, whereby seniors try to leave a mark at the institution they cherish," Baveja said.



# 51 Main may be budget casualty

By Hilary Hall  
STAFF WRITER

The College's Acting Provost Tim Spears' announced Nov. 20 that 51 Main, Middlebury's new Main Street social space, might be closed to aid the College's finances. In his entry on the blog "One Dean's View," Spears asked for student input on the issue of whether or not the College should sustain 51 Main any longer in a time of budget crisis, creating a whirlwind of response. Spears' blog posting elicited 25 responses, all but two begging him to keep 51 Main open.

51 Main, the brainchild of Spears and a generous donor, has for the past six months given students a place to relax, order drinks and light dinners, and enjoy art exhibits and live music. While Spears remarked in his original post that 51 Main does not make a profit, a donor covers its deficit. So though the establishment is not a financial earner, it also does not take away from the College's endowment. If the administration decides to close the doors of 51 Main, they will ask the donor to put his gift towards overall budget relief instead of social life, which was the stipulation under which he originally gave it. The value of the gift would no doubt make a difference to the overextended budget and help the College in coming months.

For some students and staff members, though, like many who responded to the Dean's blog, the social benefits of 51 Main outweigh the fiscal benefits of its closing.

"51 Main has been a way for me and my friends to get off campus in the evening and remove ourselves from the college nightlife every so often to spend a night a different way," remarked a student with the pseudonym "Sophomore Feb." "While I am certainly sensitive to the economic situation and understand that cuts must be made, I ask you to consider giving 51 Main more time to grow."

This sentiment was echoed by "Anonymous #3," a staff member, who said, "I find it a very comfortable way to take greater advantage of social events related to the College without feeling like I am invading the student scene on campus. While large events are always welcoming, as a non-student I would not feel comfortable going to dorm lounge to hear a student band. 51 Main makes for a great way to mix town/gown and young/old in a lovely environment on neutral turf."

Barbara Doyle-Wilch, a faculty advisor to 51 Main, agreed in a recent report that its location, which unites the town with the campus, is a major selling point for the establishment. She also remarked that 51 Main has made consistent sales and has art exhibits booked through the end of the academic year. And it is still in its early days, as both Doyle-Wilch's report and some blog comments pointed out, so as 51 Main becomes more established, interest in the venue is likely to continue to grow.

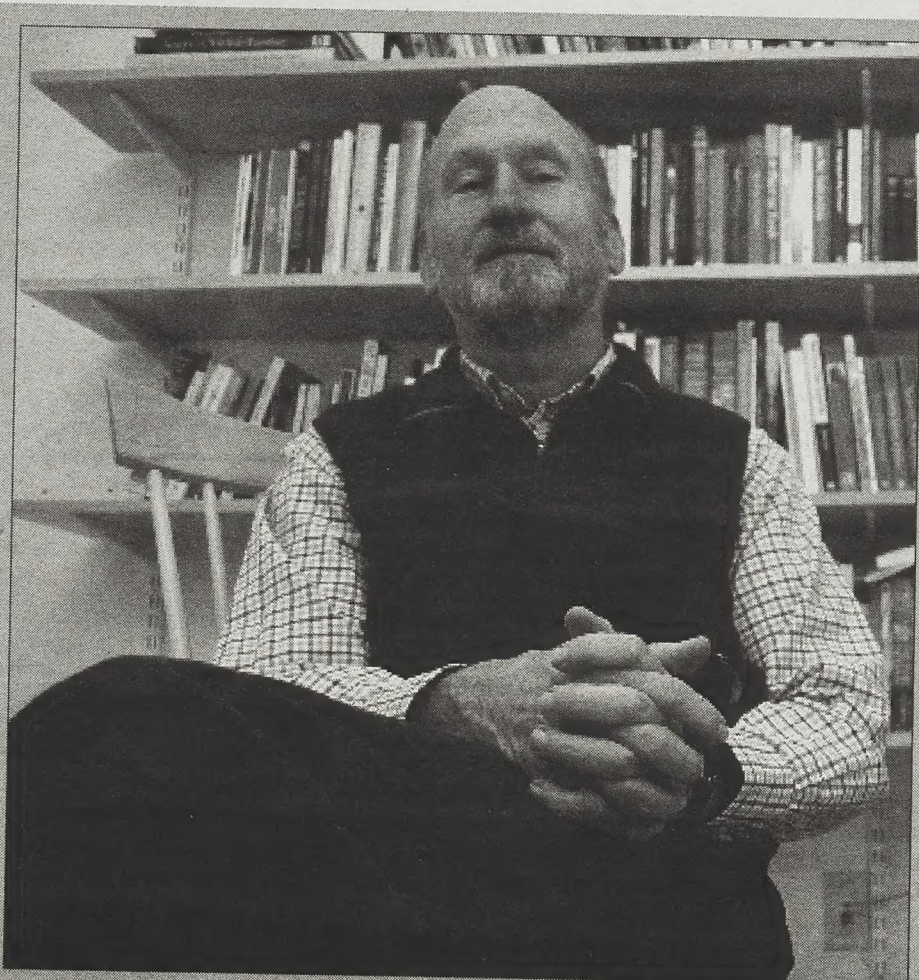
However, as anyone who has kept up on the College's fiscal situation knows, the economic shortcomings of the current budget must be taken into account. One of the few negative responses on the blog cited the recent hiring freezes as incentive to close the restaurant down and called the social life a "luxury." He or she questioned why a "nightclub" should be a budget priority, when employment at Middlebury, along with almost every other area at the College, is losing significant funding.

Another staff member's posting expressed the same feelings, saying, "It's hard to justify sustaining a nightclub that's only open three days a week and that serves a small portion of the community. It would do staff morale good [to close it] ... showing that we all must make

sacrifices, and sending a message that academics [are] more important than fancy food."

In this conflict between social life and fiscal sensibility, the administration has no easy decision ahead. In times of economic hardship

sacrifices must be made, and at what point does social life become a superfluous expense? Both Spears and President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz urged students to give their input and said that they would not make a decision



Angela Evancie, Photo Editor

## PEDAGOGY AND SCHOLARSHIP NET ACCOLADES FOR ELDER

Professor of Environmental Studies and English and American Literatures John Elder was named the Vermont Professor of the Year by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education on Nov. 20. Elder is known for his work bringing together knowledge of the local area and the broad perspectives of liberal arts education, serving on the Vermont Land Trust and Vermont Family Forests.

# Carnival agenda will include races, bonfire

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clude a game of broomball, as well as a rail jam at the Snow Bowl.

In order to plan the most successful weekend possible, the committee is coordinating the weekend with MCAB and various social houses to maximize the number of events available, as well as to ensure there are no scheduling conflicts.

The committee is also trying to increase student attendance to the ski events at the Snow Bowl. This year, they hope a stronger advertising campaign, as well as coordinated bus service via the Addison County Transit

Resources (ACTR) and a costume contest will draw larger crowds to the Bowl for the races.

While the weekend does have more funding than last year, the group is still emphasizing fundraising as the key to the success of the weekend. Fundraising efforts will include various forms of advertising with the hopes of raising a few thousand dollars.

Next year's Carnival will also try to include the Middlebury community more than in past years, both in terms of attendance and local business involvement.

**We should celebrate [the snow] ... instead of just complaining about how bone-chillingly cold the walk down to class is.**

— Ellen Dahlberg '12

## public safety log

November 24 - December 1, 2008

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
11/25/2008	10:30 a.m.	Vandalism	Structure/Wall	Jewett	Referred to Commons Dean
11/27/2008	12:04 p.m.	Attempted Theft from vehicle and Vandalism	Broken Window	C Lot	Referred to Middlebury Police Department
11/27/2008	8:53 a.m.	Attempted Theft from vehicle	Removed right rear door window	Q Lot	No Suspects
11/28/2008	10:50 a.m.	Vandalism	Vending Machine	Stewart	No Suspects

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 0 alcohol citations between November 24 and December 1.

## college shorts

By Jaime Fuller, News Editor

### Students fight to host inauguration attendees

As Washington, D.C. prepares for the record-shattering turnout expected for President-elect Barack Obama's inauguration on Jan. 20, 2009, enterprising students trying to sublet their dorms might run into conflict with university administration.

"Students who live on campus are responsible to the Housing License Agreement that they signed up for and requested housing," said Paul Lynch, an assistant director in Housing and Dining Programs at American University. "A student cannot sublet their residence hall room. In addition, any residence hall student must claim any guest that they do have."

Housing is in high demand for next year's inauguration festivities, with projected turnout climbing as high as 3 million, far above the current record of 1.2 million set at Lyndon B. Johnson's inauguration in 1965. Some people are charging as much as \$50,000 for a four-day stay in D.C., according to The Washington Post.

Despite the opportunity for cash-strapped students to make a quick buck, those who break AU's housing policies are subject to removal from their housing.

Dan Shor, a sophomore in the School of International Service, argued that it was his prerogative to have guests in his room for up to three days.

"It's none of AU's business whether I have them pay to stay or not," he said.

James Wigley, a sophomore in the College of Arts and Sciences, said that although he did not agree with the university's policies, he is unwilling to put his housing in jeopardy despite the potential for making a quick buck.

"I wouldn't do it," he said. "I would hate to have to find housing this late in the semester. Though, I do disagree with AU saying whether I can have guests stay with me."

— The Eagle

### Study finds students not as studious as expected

According to a survey conducted by The National Survey of Student Engagement of 380,000 freshmen and seniors at 722 four-year colleges taken this spring, students aren't as prepared as their professors expect them to be.

Diane Mohler, a Center for Academic Success consultant at Louisiana State University, credits the difference between high school and college workloads as a reason for why students only claimed to have studied 3.5 hours per week per class, half of what professors suggested.

"For most students, this was all that was needed to be successful in high school," Mohler said. "Reviewing notes 24 to 36 hours in advance would usually suffice."

Jesse Chandler, a freshman at LSU, said he studies a week before an exam, which is a big change from his study habits in high school.

"Sometimes I still have to cram," he said. "I think I have so much time in between, so I don't have to rush, and then it just piles up."

The survey also found that 20 percent of students go to class without reading their textbooks or completing assignments.

"There are so many distractions in today's world, and I feel students have to take a proactive approach to managing their time," Mohler said. "Planning is the key."

— The Daily Reveille



# Fulbrights awarded to pair of alumnae

By Adam Schaffer  
STAFF WRITER

Recent graduates Sarah Jones '07 and Lee Ware '06 joined four other Middlebury alumni as Fulbright scholars for the 2008-09 year.

The program, which is funded via grants from both the U.S. Department of State and foreign governments, was established in the late 1940s.

It's goal was to bring "a little more knowledge, a little more reason and a little more compassion into world affairs and thereby increase the chance that nations will learn at last to live in peace and friendship," the program's namesake, the late Senator James William Fulbright, explained.

In living up to this ideal of bettering relations, Jones and Ware will both take their studies and mastery of Russian to the far reaches of world to study and improve intercultural dialogue.

Jones will be continuing the work on Russian Christian Orthodoxy she began in her senior thesis at Middlebury at the Russian State University of the Humanities and St. Andrew's Biblical Theological Institute. She is also currently pursuing a master's degree from the theological studies program at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

The focus of her senior thesis — and current Fulbright work — was on Aleksandr Men, an influential Russian religious leader who supported the liberal reforms of the late 1980s, her advisor Associate Professor Tatiana Smorodinskaya explained in an email.

Jones admires Men "for teaching tolerance toward others, the necessity for ecumenical and interfaith dialogue, the responsibility for Christians to reach out to those in need and, most importantly, that a Christian's first duty is to love," she said in an interview with the College.

Jones has begun making contacts for her work as a Fulbright scholar, having already

met with Men's widow and a number of his followers. In living up to the program's goal of promoting dialogue, she plans to launch a blog where young Muscovites can discuss Orthodoxy.

Ware's work will take her equally far — to Kazakhstan — where she will continue studying the integration of the Chechen population into Kazakh society.

She will be studying in the city of Almaty, which she describes as "the crossroads of the world ... a fantastic mix of Russian and Asian, Islam and atheism, East and West and old and new," she described in an interview with the College.

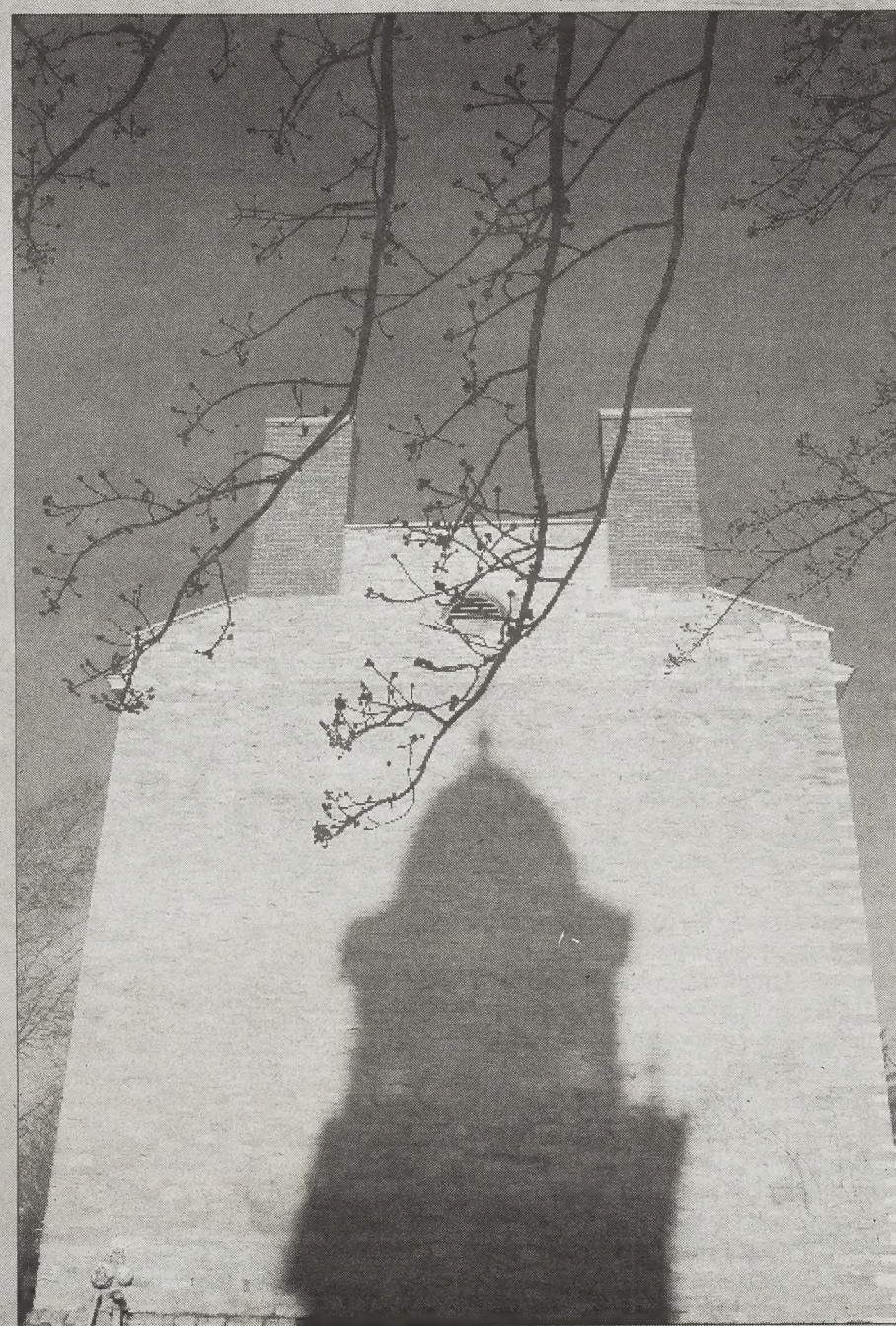
As she wrote in her Fulbright proposal, her work will analyze "the aspects of Kazakh culture that have been integrated into the Chechen community and what aspects have been preserved over the past 60 years."

In spite of a history of minority oppression within Russian society, "the Chechen population deported from Russia was welcomed by, and, in a sense, rescued by its Kazakh hosts."

Ware's advisor Professor Michael Kraus describes her research as "a very sensitive subject," but nevertheless is very confident in her success because of the strong connections she has already made in the Chechen community.

The graduates' studies at Middlebury — in and out of the classroom — built a foundation for their future studies. Both Ware and Jones were involved in the Russian and Eastern Europe Society, as well as other cultural and linguistic organizations. Ware was a political science and Russian double major. Jones graduated with high honors in Russian.

The Middlebury alumnae join the more than 108,000 Americans who have studied throughout the world on Fulbright awards in the program's 62-year history.



Angela Evancie, Photo Editor

## LET'S PAINT THE TOWN SUNNY

After winter threatened to begin in force with a sleet storm Nov. 30 that hindered students returning to campus, they were greeted with a clear, warm day that included the picturesque shadow of Old Chapel on the side of Painter Hall.

# McCullough projects go full speed ahead

By Ian Trombulak  
STAFF WRITER

The construction on campus has been hard to miss this semester, with major renovations happening on two of the College's most frequented buildings. Students can look forward to McCullough Student Center re-opening before the start of the spring term, and Proctor Dining Hall to be up and running before we return next fall. Both buildings will return with a laundry list of new features and improvements that should make the updated buildings more popular than ever.



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

Although the heavy construction at the McCullough Student Center shows there is much work to be done, the administration projects that the Social Space will open in spring 2009.

According to Director for the Center of Campus Activities and Leadership (CCAL) Doug Adams, the interest in the new Social Space in McCullough has been considerable. He believes that the already heavily used space for performances and gatherings will grow in popularity once it returns in the spring.

"It's been an interesting challenge," said Adams, about relocating performance groups such as Riddim for their fall shows which would typically have been held in McCullough. While CCAL has successfully relocated the majority of shows and events

that would normally use the space to other College locations, such as Pepin Gym, Mead Chapel and Nelson Arena, Adams stated that the re-opening of a Middlebury town project, the Town Hall Theater, has been especially helpful for theatrical performances. As for groups planning spring events, CCAL is "already isolating dates for them."

According to Adams, the changes being made to the Social Space are substantial. While they have removed the balcony, the seating capacity will nevertheless increase from 300 to about 410. The steel girders have been removed, but for the most part have been reused. A new wood floor has just been laid, and the overall feeling is that this already multi-purpose facility will now be even more versatile.

Said Adams, "one construction worker described it pretty well, as a space that is valuable but has been neglected." The increase in space will allow for larger events, while old mainstays like Riddim and ISO shows will be making a return for the spring semester. The new space will also be fitted with more comfortable seating, as well as new technology such as a projection system.

Elsewhere on campus, Middlebury's oldest dining hall has remained devoid of students since construction began on it following the departure of Language School students this summer. Many students were unhappy to learn that the popular dining location would be closed for the entirety of the year, feeling cramped in the now overcrowded Ross and Atwater Dining Halls, while dismayed at the distance to Proctor's temporary replacement, Freeman International Center

(FIC). However, these complaints will be placated when students return in the fall of 2009 to find Proctor back up and running with its own set of improvements.

"The highlights of the project," said project manager Mark Gleason, "include a new servery and refurbished dining hall, a fully renovated and expanded Book Store ... a refurbished Woodstove Lounge," as well as greater accessibility through new entrances and a new loading dock. While it may not affect students quite as much, the building's infrastructure is also being updated, as electrical wiring, fire alarm systems, heating ventilation and air conditioning are all being improved to provide the students and workers alike with a safer, more comfortable atmosphere. The building will re-open in June this coming year, in time for the incoming Language School students.

The projects have been challenging, according to Gleason, in that both are "major renovations in buildings that remain occupied" rather than the ideal situation of having an empty building to work on. However, he said, it has been as smooth as possible and there has been little conflict, "in large part due to the tremendous cooperation of those people who ... have gracefully accepted the inconvenience, noise and disruption that construction brings."

However, Gleason said that these challenges have been minimal in contrast to the joy that both projects are slated to be "completed on time and within budget, and that all parties are pleased with the process and the outcome."





photos and story by andrea glaessner, local news editor

Attention Middlebury: the American economy is officially in a recession. Most of us do not need a reminder of the stark reality that the buying power of one dollar has diminished significantly. Even bargain shopping is now a risky endeavor — as Black Friday's tragic Wal-Mart incident revealed, holiday shopping has become an American version of the running of the bulls.

But shopping should never be a source of stress — America has enough on its plate already. This holiday season, your local news co-editors have devised a way to make holiday shopping easy and efficient, giving you more time for the things that matter, like getting tipsy on eggnog with your Aunt Suzanne or dominating your little brother in Battleship. Just follow our "to do list" (page 6) and you will be able to check everyone off your own list before break. The secret hits close to home — shop in Middlebury!

"Local" has become quite a buzzword around these parts, with the farmers' market extending into winter months and the local food and energy movement gaining ground in Addison County. Now that the local economy is stuck in a rut, the idea of keeping all your holiday shopping within the confines of downtown Middlebury starts to make sense. Even if a dollar will not get you very far, at least you know where it is going.

Plus, what could be more convenient than strolling downtown to do all your shopping? With the economy down and out, local businessmen and women have stepped up their game to make holiday shopping easier than ever. At Sweet Cecily, for example, the gift displays are conveniently organized into separate categories for the males and females on your list. Vermont's Own features gift baskets on display to give customers ideas about how to create their own unique gift, perfect for relatives or neighbors. You are bound

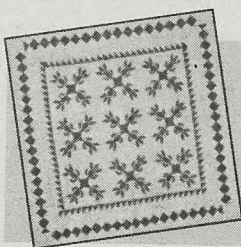
to find something for everyone when you shop in Middlebury.

Holiday cheer is in the air all over, from the shops to the restaurants to the quaint bakeries and cafés. For quick and easy gifts to bring to holiday events, stop by Otter Creek and pick up an Otter Selection holiday four-pack, complete with three 22 oz. bottles and a World Tour collectors' glass for the host, or swing by Middlebury Market for a nice bottle of wine. Otter Creek Bakery also has a bevy of holiday treats ranging from bread shaped like a ginger-man to scrumptious truffles and decadent cakes.

In addition to fine food and libations, plants are another perennial favorite. Giving an interesting plant is the perfect way to thank your advisor for his or her diligent efforts on helping you graduate. The Blossom Basket is an obvious choice for unique flowers and potted plants (the cute pincushion plant and the Venus Fly Trap are editors' picks). But do not forget about Belladonna, adjacent to 51 Main, for a large selection of exotic plants and other gifts. We think their mittens are perfect for mom.

Which reminds us — seniors and Febs — here is a great way to leave your mark on the local community. We know that schoolwork keeps you busy, but if you feel you have not had enough involvement in the town over the years, the holidays are a great time start. As you shop, you can support the people and the businesses that make the town, and the College, thrive.

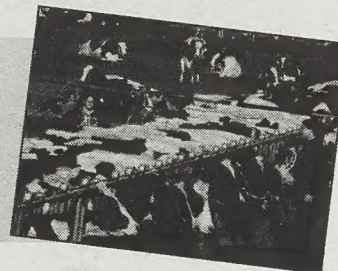
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page 6



**Patching up local history**  
Henry Sheldon Museum links quilt exhibit with annual winter celebration, page 7.

**Free Friday Feast**  
Middlebury community dinners see numbers climb as economy tumbles, page 6.

**Migrant debate ensues**  
Panel meets to discuss illegal workers in Vermont from police perspective, page 7.





## to do list:

- study for finals
- work on thesis
- shop for holiday gifts...

**advisor:**  
-cool plant from blossom basket  
-otter creek bakery bouche de noel

**mom:**  
-vintage jewelry from bejewelled  
-mittens from belladonna  
-frog hollow pottery

**sister:**  
-make a necklace or knit a scarf at vermont beads and fibers

**dad:**  
-buddha desk organizer from sweet cecily  
-books from the vermont book shop (NY Times complete book of front pages? BBQ cookbook?)

**auntie myrtle and uncle todd:**  
-gift basket from vermont's own, (maple syrup and candy, fudge, jam, cheese)  
-pink flamingo from ben franklin

**brother:**  
-venus fly trap from blossom basket,  
-sports/midd paraphenalia from forth and goal

**best girl friend:**  
-gift certificate for waterfalls day spa  
-homemade friendship bracelet with embroidery floss from ben franklin

**best guy friend:**  
-favorite libation from bevco (maybe a gift certificate?!)  
-ski hat from the alpine shop

## Community suppers offer respite for hungry

By Amanda Cormier  
STAFF WRITER

At the first Community Supper at the Congregational Church of Middlebury in 2004, Dottie Neuberger and a few other volunteers served 22 meals to low-income, elderly and other members of the community. Four years later, on Nov. 21, 110 people ate a turkey dinner provided by the Waybury Inn, and 50 additional meals were served in to-go boxes to be eaten later.

Although visibility has largely contributed to the increased popularity of the suppers, a spike is expected soon as a result of the plummeting economy. Neuberger, who organizes and runs the suppers each week, said she sees new faces every Friday night.

"There are lots of regulars, which helps build community," she said. "We get a few new people every week."

Pat Chase runs the Community Suppers when Neuberger is out of town and shops for paper goods and food staples for the suppers. She said that the recession has added to the steady clientele of locals who

come to the suppers each Friday.

"Our count is up about 25 more each Friday than usual, and has been increasing since the middle of the summer," Chase said. "On average we get about 110 people now. On the day after Thanksgiving, I expected our count to be down a little bit, but it was at around 85."

At the Community Summit on Poverty in Addison County, in 2004, the Middlebury Transitional Care Coalition (MTCC) concluded that there were a great number of underfed people in Addison County. To meet the needs of these people, the MTCC formed the Community Suppers program. A minister at the Congregational Church proposed that Neuberger run the program in addition to her job as Vice-Chair of MTCC.

"And I asked him, 'Do you want to talk about it, or do you want to do it?'" Neuberger said. "And of course, we did it."

Support for the program relies on donations from community organizations in the form of a hot meal or a heated space to those in need. Thirty organizations provide at least one meal each year, with the

Congregational Church providing around 12. Volunteers set up tables and serve the food and drinks.

Sarafina Midzik '11 first volunteered for the program last year when Havurah, Addison County's Jewish congregation, sponsored a dinner. After asking Neuberger how she could become more involved with the dinners, she took up the role of organizing "Breakfast on Us." The program was implemented by Neuberger to provide those at the suppers with healthy breakfast foods. Midzik helps measure out and bag portions of cereal for people at the suppers to take home each week.

"There was something really rewarding about spending time with people in the community, and giving something back to the community that gives so much to me just by going to college here," she said.

She sees the suppers as a particularly important part of the community during the winter months, when heating costs place a substantial burden on low-income residents of Addison County.

"The price of gas has gone down somewhat, but it's still going

to be a really expensive winter for a lot of people," she said.

On Nov. 21, a particularly chilly night, the church was packed. A steady stream of volunteers rushed to refill the lemonades and coffees of each of the 12 tables set up with checkerboard tablecloths and Thanksgiving centerpieces. Volunteers from Waybury Inn churned out an effective assembly line of turkey dinners with mashed potatoes, gravy, peas, stuffing, cranberry sauce and pumpkin cake.

Over the course of the evening, Neuberger was bombarded with questions from rushed volunteers, as is usual on nights when the church is packed — where are the straws? Should we start serving dessert? — but by now, she's used to the fast-paced environment of serving dinner to a large number of people. She's focused on calling on the community — and the College — to increase their involvement with the suppers, keeping the economy in mind.

"So far, the Admissions Office, ISO, and Atwater, Ross and Wonacott Commons have sponsored meals," she said. "It would be great

if every Commons put on a meal."

Chase said that those who come to the suppers often volunteer to help with preparation, adding to the community built each Friday night.

"We've found it's a great team-building thing, and [volunteers are] getting to know people in the community they wouldn't normally know and vice versa," she said. "It's great being able to walk down the street and say hi and carry on a short conversation with someone you met at the supper. It doesn't help the person financially, but it makes both people feel better."

Although Neuberger expects resources to be tight in the coming months and years, she said she has a positive outlook on the program's future. She said the program plans to branch out during the winter by providing lunches to kids over winter break.

"No matter how tight [resources] are, we're going to do this," she said. "If everybody who's ever been here came [at once], we'd be totally overwhelmed. But I don't believe we're not going to be able to do this, even if we're serving spaghetti every Friday."



# Quilts weave local holiday history

By Nicole Lam  
STAFF WRITER

This winter, the Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History in downtown Middlebury is featuring the quilt exhibit "Piecemakers: Vermont Country Quilts 1830-present." While many of the quilts date back to the 1800s, there are a few unique, modern quilts that immediately catch the eye.

Crafted by various Middlebury women throughout history, the quilts are a symbol of loyalty and love for the community. These preserved masterpieces are not just decorative; they hold a great deal of historical significance as well. While admiring the beautiful quilts, it becomes apparent that while so much about Middlebury has changed over the years, there are still some things that remain the same.

For example, there is the Bicentennial Quilt sewn in 1976 by the women of the Congregational Church of Middlebury. The quilt consists of 30 blocks sewn together, with each block featuring various hallmarks of the community, including the Waybury Inn, the Charter House, the Old Chapel, the Middlebury Inn and Lake Dunmore.

For the women who created these masterpieces, the quilts hold memories of friends

and families. Made in 1846, the Signature Quilt consists of a series of farewell notes written on squares and then pieced together. Among the many delicate scripts is one embellished with the words: "Forget me not. To make a kind remembrance to a dear friend." The script concludes with, "Friendship, a sum whose value is seldom duly appreciated."

But upon comparing the Appliqué Tulip Quilt of 1840 to the Weeping Lady Liberty Quilt of 2001, one recognizes how much America, and more specifically, Middlebury, has changed. The Appliqué Tulip Quilt is covered with soft red flowers and birds pitched against a white cotton background. In contrast, the Weeping Lady Liberty Quilt stands out with its bold splash of wild shapes pieced together to form faces, giving the illusion of many masks moving in and out of the quilt.

Crafted by Susan Damone, a local Middlebury quilter in response to Sept. 11, the artwork depicts Lady Liberty's hollow eyes, poignant smile and chaotic shapes and colors cover her face. Enveloped in the silence of the room, one is amazed by the powerful emotion emanating from the delicate threads.

Damone has transformed the standard image of Lady Liberty. She has lost her glory. By holding this contemporary quilt against a traditional quilt, the Museum seeks to demonstrate to visitors how the subtle colors, patterns and most of all, the themes of modern quilts have moved forward.

The powerful inspiration from the quilt exhibit softens as one moves on towards the new exhibit held specially for this holiday season. The big showcase is the train exhibit located on the second floor. A towering train set with four different railroad

tracks hearkens the festivity of the changing seasons. The trains slowly chugs along a beautiful, painted background that progresses from a scene from Middlebury's late summer to a layout of winter mountains, evergreen coniferous trees, and reindeer.

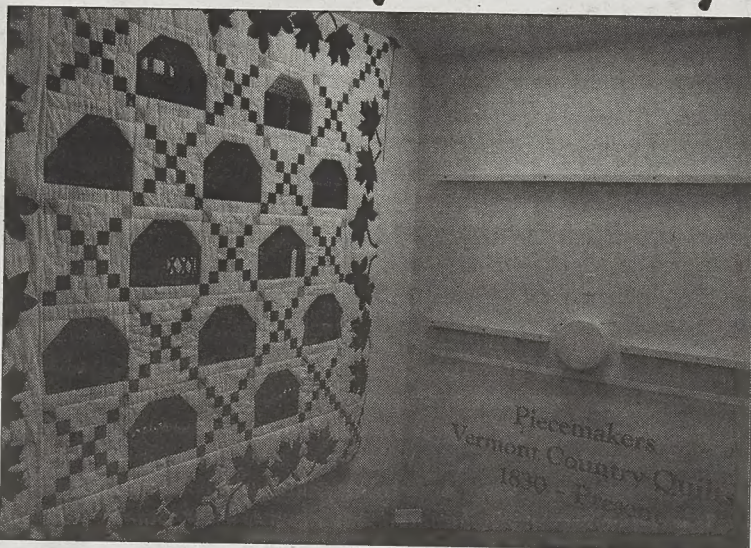
In addition, all around the room are canvases of the Brandon Station in 1948 and the morning round-trip train known as the "Tin Can" that came by to pick up travellers at Middlebury on its way to Burlington in 1947.

Aside from the train display, the curator has set up a tiny wooden desk that holds Christmas cards that Henry Sheldon himself wrote in the 1800s. The photograph exhibit on the first floor presents a whole range of enlarged black-and-white photographs taken in the early 1900s.

The images recall the tragic impact of the "Big Storm" on Main Street as well as the joyful, precious moments of children sledding down the Middlebury Town Green, skating on Otter Creek, and reindeer sleigh-riding in front of the Porter House and Middlebury College.

Usually, the Henry Sheldon Museum only displays its original collection of Henry Sheldon's artifacts. Some of these objects are coins, landscape paintings, autographs, a grand piano and textiles. However, this season, the Museum has created a special holiday theme by linking the quilting exhibit with the winter photographs, the Christmas decorations and the train display.

Everything in the Museum reminds visitors of cozying up with a warm quilt during the holidays while thinking back to memories of childhood fun with family and friends. The winter exhibit will be on display from Nov. 28 through January 2009.



A quilt adorned with maple leaves hangs from the wall at the exhibition.

Angela Evancie



Angela Evancie

The exhibit features a quilt depicting images of the town.

## Panel pinpoints racial profiling

### Residents talk with local police about illegal workers in Vt.

By Amanda Cormier  
STAFF WRITER

On Nov. 20, representatives from Vermont State Police, Middlebury Police Department and the Middlebury Select Board convened to answer questions about policies regarding undocumented foreign nationals in Middlebury. The issue of undocumented foreign nationals working in the agricultural sector has long been a subject of debate in Vermont. But at the Nov. 20 meeting, local concerns seemed to converge on the topic of racial profiling of undocumented workers.

The panel was one in a series of eight events designed to coincide with an exhibit at the Vermont Folklife Center titled, "The Golden Cage: Mexican Migrant Workers and Vermont Dairy Farmers." Brent Bjorkman, Executive Director of the Vermont Folklife Center, said the exhibit

and the corresponding events have prompted a similarly positive response from the community.

"I wasn't sure what the response to the exhibit was going to be," he said. "At a recent film, there was time for dairy farmers to talk about why they employ undocumented workers. I think people are thankful that the issue is finally being talked about. To me, it's a sigh of relief."

Bjorkman intended for the series of events to add a voice to the photos and interviews on display at the exhibit.

"It's great to have an exhibit, but we wanted to make the issue more engaging and socially aware to folks," he said. "Hearing the voices of the farmers, workers and law enforcement brings the issue into the public forum and increases the dialogue."

Tom Tremblay, Commissioner of Public Safety for the

Vermont State Police, answered several questions about the State Police's protocol when stopping cars for minor infractions like speeding or a broken taillight. Several locals, some from the Addison County Farm Workers Coalition (ACFWC), voiced concern that state police use racial profiling to stop drivers who they think may be undocumented. Tremblay reiterated that state police officers only stop vehicles found in violation of state or municipal law and emphasized that they run background checks on every driver they stop.

Cheryl Mitchell, co-convenor of ACFWC, said that the concerns about racial profiling are indicative of many locals' stance on the issue of illegal immigration in Vermont.

"There was little backlash in the county at the beginning to the tune of 'Why are these people stealing jobs?'" she said, "But

people have realized that they are clearly keeping the economic engines alive."

Middlebury Chief of Police Tom Hanley brought forth a new policy regarding undocumented foreign nationals before the Select Board in September 2007. The policy is similar to that of the state police in that it will only refer undocumented foreign nationals to the respective Federal agency when "the person is known to have committed a crime against the statutes of the State of Vermont" or is suspected of criminal conduct other than the person's own immigration status. It was unanimously endorsed by the Board and enacted in October 2007.

"There has been an overwhelmingly positive response to the policy," Hanley said. "Any negative opinion came from people who don't live around here. I've seen some pretty bizarre letters."

## local lowdown

### Ho! Ho! Ho!

Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Santa and his elves are coming to the Middlebury Community House. Horse-drawn wagon rides will be available to ferry visitors to the many events going on in town. Stop by, sit on his lap and tell him what you want for Christmukkah!

### Gingerbread House Contest

Dec. 5, 4-6 p.m.

Luckily, you can catch this gingerbread, since houses do not have legs. Take a break from finals and head to the Vermont Folklife Center for the opening of the gingerbread house contest exhibit. Hint: they gave out free samples last year.

### Sheldon Museum Open House

Dec. 6 and 7, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Come celebrate "A Vermont Country Christmas" at the Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History in Middlebury. This winter's open house features the following: an exhibit of photographs, an exciting train layout, music, a holiday raffle and, of course, milk and cookies.

### Gallery in the Field

Dec. 6, 5 p.m.

Check out the reception for an exhibition of sculptures by Liza Myers and paintings and collages by Linda Durkee. 685 Arnold District Road (off Route 7). For more information: [www.galleryinthefield.com](http://www.galleryinthefield.com)

### Meet the Senator

Dec. 6, 12:30 p.m.

Vermont's favorite Senator Bernie Sanders will be hosting a Town meeting on the economy and other important issues. Free light brunch at 9:30 a.m. Event will be held at Otter Valley Union High School in Brandon.

### Farm Worker Panel

Dec. 10, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

In a panel discussion entitled, "Farm Workers in Addison County: Is Their Situation Improving or Getting Worse?" participants will explore the condition of local farms and farm workers. Organized by Addison County Farm Workers Coalition. Located at the Congregational Church.



## The Middlebury Campus

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## Editorial Looking back, looking forward

No sign marks the coming of winter better than the glow emanating from the library in the wee hours of the morning as students furiously type away the last pages of their theses alongside procrastinators working on that lingering assignment. Amidst this unmistakable omen, we look back and reflect upon the fall semester. It seems as if only yesterday the campus was awash in the warm sunshine of a late Vermont summer, but since then the College reaped an intellectual and athletic harvest of great abundance. Most recently, the women's cross country team won yet another national championship, cementing its reputation as Middlebury's quiet dynasty; also of note was the men's soccer team, which submitted another sterling postseason performance, thereby proving last year's title no fluke. Academically, the College hosted a number of provoking speakers and its students accumulated a number of achievements and fellowships. Even the mathematicians took the green chicken back from Williams.

But the harvest has been bitter in other regards. While the pages of this paper were filled with stories of idyllic October weekends and even an entire issue of boastful environmental content, they have also featured the unfortunate presence of obituaries, and a consistent stream of morose news of economic hardship and its continuing effect on the College's budget and future.

So as fall turns into winter, Middlebury students are in a similar position to the President-elect they celebrate so dearly. We have much to be thankful for, and look to the future with a great deal of hope; but we encounter challenges and expectations that border on insurmountable. The challenge in expectations is felt most painfully in the job market, which, despite the best efforts of Career Services, is contracting. There is a reduction in the amount of available positions and an expanding labor pool of talented candidates. Graduating seniors are most familiar with these market conditions, but the writing is on the wall for all Middlebury students who are considering internships, careers and summer jobs.

Amidst the uncertainty, the liberal arts education has prepared Middlebury students as best it can; we do believe that our broad focus and ability to think both critically and creatively will be of great utility in this era of financial doubt and skepticism.

The College too faces similar challenges. The economic wind has been let out of the sails driving the endowment and Middlebury Initiative, and terms like "budget cuts" and "hiring freeze" dominate the vernacular as growth and expansion had for the last decade. Old Chapel must struggle to maintain the academic excellence and reputation of this august institution during a time without financial excess.

Both the College and its students are embarking on a long winter with warmth in our memories and in our friends and family with which we'll celebrate the upcoming holiday season. We bid the fall adieu and alongside our fellow students and community members bundle up for the cold and look to the sky, wondering what the future will hold.

## contact the campus

To contact The Middlebury Campus Publications with story tips or content suggestions, e-mail: [campus@middlebury.edu](mailto:campus@middlebury.edu) or find us on the web at: [www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com)

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"On the bright side, all this end-of-the-semester Adderall and coffee fit really well into my holiday diet plan..."

Sam Dakota Miller

## Notes from the desk: Scott Greene, James Kerrigan, and Jack Lysohir We Quit!: Our valedictory address

Valediction \val-uh-DIK-shuhn\, *noun*: the action of bidding farewell; a farewell.

Consider this our valediction. Impressed with our vocabulary? You shouldn't be. During tonight's ed board meeting (our last, ever, single tear) James' aging IBM think pad dinged twice — as it has so many times before — signaling the arrival of a new email. The email was the trusty dictionary.com word of the day, and sure enough, the prophetic voice that is dictionary.com told us that our word of the day was "valediction." Soo good, dictionary.com, soo good.

After disparate yet fulfilling years working in News, Sports, Opinions, and finally taking over the helm of the newspaper this fall as Editors-in-Chief and Managing Editor, we are bidding our farewell. Contrary to popular belief, we're actually not really quitting...we're Febs. And due to either above average extracurricular involvement and Carhartt wearing or a propensity for international travel and environmental stewardship (Green Issue!) we were accepted to come to Middlebury in February, and therefore also must leave this place in that cold, miserable month. J-Term will be a period of transition for *The Campus* and for us as we help the newly elected leadership begin the most exciting and meaningful period of their lives.

Though our departure from *The Campus* is imminent, we can't help but reflect on our semester in charge. Perhaps our journey can best be described as the zig zag of a thousand tacks (sailing metaphor #2, thanks Jamo), beginning with our orientation screening of "All The Presidents Men" (thanks Jacko), where we tried in earnest to imbue our new charges with the important ideals of journalism — that is to say, follow the biggest story, where you can get the most attention, with only the most spurious of sources (thanks Scott). Amen. Dreams of investigative journalism soon turned into the cold reality of three super seniors and eight iMacs in a dark, dank Hepburn basement.

And so we began. Unfortunately, our investigative journalism only helped to uncover the saddest of stories. Faced with numerous deaths in the College community

and a worsening financial crisis, our serious mission as reporters became clear. Our early issues meant late nights discussing how best to report on highly delicate matters in the most diplomatic and informative ways. We took these tasks seriously.

Later the news cycle changed, turning to politics, when we reported on the excitement surrounding Obama's victory. The following week we made College newspaper history with our Green Issue; and made *Middlebury Campus* history by misspelling our second above the fold front page headline in one semester. However, we stand by our claim that carbon *neutrality* neutrality is being slowed by the economy.

## But now, at 2:56 a.m., we wonder, tritely (of course), where the time went?

But that's all over now. And things change. The old Macintosh G3's that reside in the closet have now been replaced by slimmer, faster and more fashionable versions of Steve's Jobs latest vision. Despite the technological updates, *The Campus* remains, as it has for editors of the past, about the camaraderie. To be sure, there have been changes — Ramunto's buffalo chicken pizza replaced Neil & Otto's breadsticks as our Monday night snack, for example — but the late nights, looming deadlines and friendships live on.

But now, at 2:56 a.m. we wonder, tritely (of course), where the time went? When you work on a newspaper a sense of renewal is profoundly felt. Every week is a new adventure, a new crisis, a new opportunity. We experience time narrowly, day by day, week by week, above all, issue by issue. But now those weeks have added up and we're faced with the fact that our semester and our Middlebury careers are nearly over. Looking back, we're glad that so much of those careers — and late nights — were spent carrying on a proud Middlebury tradition and contributing to this very paper. Thanks for giving us the chance. So long.

JAMES KERRIGAN IS FROM ETNA, N.H. SCOTT GREENE IS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE. THEY ARE CO-EDITORS-IN-CHIEF. JACK LYSOHIR IS FROM BRONXVILLE, N.Y. HE IS THE MANAGING EDITOR. THEY ARE ALL '08.5.

## campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, [campus@middlebury.edu](mailto:campus@middlebury.edu) or via the paper's web site at [www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com). To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.



## Out on a Lim: Leslie Lim Living on a deadline

Staying on campus for the Thanksgiving break, one of the first things I noticed that marked the end of the break was the reopening of the library. Along with limited open hours on Saturday and extended hours (24-hrs!) on Sunday, the library welcomed back hordes of students who probably hadn't done anything beyond think about their workload over the break, myself included. After enjoying a well-deserved break, what drove students to the library like ships to a lighthouse? In one word: deadlines. In addition to the usual Middlebury workload, this year there is only one week between Thanksgiving and the exam period. A week that is likely filled with a multitude of papers, projects, and problem sets.

I am not complaining about our work that is due. After all, it being the end of the term, what else can we expect besides having to

one earlier. And yet they ended up leaving the work to the end.

What does this prove? Can we really not get anything done without an imminent deadline and the implied consequences imposed by society? Are we really unable to do what we know is better for us? Mulling this over, I think the answer is both yes and no. Certainly the consequences of missing a deadline provide added incentive to finally complete a task. But I think a large part of what makes us put off doing things might simply be the busyness of our lives. Facing a barrage of assignments and tasks, it only makes sense to tackle what is due first. An earlier deadline will take precedence because we simply do not have time to do it all, at least at the given moment.

Even in my American Presidency class we have examined how time is a factor constraining a president

**We are only capable of dealing with a limited amount of things at once, and deadlines help us prioritize.**

and his desire to implement his policy initiatives. A president faces an incredible amount of things that demand his attention, and what-

you were assigned more than two weeks ago. We all do it — somehow putting off all the things that we could have gotten started on, and swore we were going to, this time.

A friend in an experimental economics class had told me that the class had even looked at data that showed statistically that between a group of students assigned a deadline, and a group of students allowed to pick their own deadline, those assigned a deadline completed their work before and did better than those given independent deadlines. Theoretically, the students given freedom could have given themselves the same deadline, if not

ever has a more immediate deadline is going to garner his attention, whether it is something he wants to concentrate on or not. It is a simple reality that we are only capable of dealing with a limited amount of things at once, and deadlines help us prioritize. Of course we could work on procrastinating less and starting things earlier, but next time you mentally berate yourself for waiting till the last minute to finish a paper, don't feel so bad — you may just be reasonably prioritizing in an overwhelming world.

LESLIE LIM '10 IS FROM THE  
REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE.

have an opinion?

e-mail [campus@middlebury.edu](mailto:campus@middlebury.edu)

## heardoncampus

There were three contenders for the Millstone Award. We beat out unisex bathrooms and internet porn.

— John M. McCardell  
President Emeritus  
Page 2

## OP-ED: Maurits Pot Where are our traditions?

The overarching goal of the current Middlebury Initiative is to position the College as the first global liberal arts college of the 21st century. In short, the Initiative will enable Middlebury to further improve, expand and globalize. While these goals are commendable, I am often struck by how little I encounter about the Middlebury of the past in my daily life around campus. At some colleges, the past plays a vivid and integral role in the present nature of the institution, yet at Middlebury, I sense a lurking disconnect between the past, present and future. Middlebury is evidently a very progressive institution, yet being progressive should not entail being ignorant of one's past. While Middlebury is generally considered a better school in 2008 compared to 1980, the Middlebury of today should not disenfranchise itself from its rich history and institutional traditions.

While there is still some tradition manifested around campus, especially within sports teams, a cappella groups and other social establishments, I sense a lack of campus-wide manifestation of tradition. Whereas other institutions have actively guarded such rich traditions, epitomized in Princeton's yearly Alumni parade, Dartmouth's homecoming bonfire, and Williams' celebration of Mountain Day and a yearly lobster dinner, Middlebury has lost all but a few traditions such as Winter Carnival. As times have changed and Middlebury has evolved, some traditions are undoubtedly inappropriate and uncalled for in this day of age; however, there are many more harmless, influential traditions that have undeservedly undergone the same fate as such incongruous traditions.

The traditions students experience and share often have an unparalleled impact on their college memories. While the academic and athletic experiences at many top-tier schools will have many similarities, what distinguishes a Middlebury experience from say another liberal arts college experience will partly come down to shared memories often originating from collectively experienced rituals or traditions. Such rituals may have seemed rather mundane at the time, but with the benefit of hindsight, will hold an undisputable significance.

In many ways, tradition acts as an interface between the different periods of history that come to define an institution. Furthermore, tradition acts as a

medium connecting different generations of members of an institution, as each generation likes to recollect and idealize its experience of a school tradition. In this sense, tradition's paramount role is to nurture a sentiment of community and continuity among different generations of an institution. Similarly, through tradition, institutions can transmit core values from one generation to the next, and ensure that an institution remains true to its founding principles.

While Middlebury has embarked on a more progressive agenda for quite some time, the downfall of tradition accelerated in the 1980's with the demise of the fraternity scene. Interestingly, the Middlebury fraternity scene adopted some of the progressive spirit of the College at an early stage without sacrificing its

traditions, exemplified by the acceptance of an African American, Ron Brown '62, into an all-white fraternity at the time. These social institutions played a prominent role in prolonging social and cultural traditions, and tradition subsequently decreased as its underlying foundations disintegrated. At some colleges, tradition is celebrated on a campus-wide scale through parades, dinners, bonfires, lectures and other communal activities, yet at Middlebury I have yet to encounter such a custom. Furthermore, of the few traditions that still exist on a school-wide scale, such as the winter-carnival, the administration fails to preserve such integral aspects that have defined generations of Middlebury student's memories of their collegiate years. Simultaneously, current students have also fallen short in endorsing and prolonging such traditions by failing to consistently embrace them and defend their distinctive roles within the college experience.

From talking with other students and different alumni constituencies, these concerns are echoed to an even stronger degree, as numerous alumni feel estranged from the Middlebury they attended. If I were to ever return to Middlebury thirty years from now, I hope I could still identify myself with the Middlebury I attended, and ideally witness a revival of the traditions my Middlebury experience lacked.

From talking with other students and different alumni constituencies, these concerns are echoed to an even stronger degree, as numerous alumni feel estranged from the Middlebury they attended. If I were to ever return to Middlebury thirty years from now, I hope I could still identify myself with the Middlebury I attended, and ideally witness a revival of the traditions my Middlebury experience lacked.

MAURITS POT '11 IS FROM  
WARMOND, NETHERLANDS.

## Behind Enemy Lines: Andrey Tolstoy Thinking and feeling about grammar

Non-native English speakers arriving in Middlebury will be quick to discover the inadequacy of their own mother tongues when it comes to describing emotion. Far from the dispassionate academics the media portrays them to be, students here are adept at describing a whole gamut of feelings, including "happy," "tingly," and "the Fed should cut its key interest rate by an additional .25 percent." The campus in daylight is a sanatorium, with group therapy sessions held across all departments. Patients have the opportunity to share their feelings about English and Theatre, as well as the traditionally less emotive disciplines like Physics and Chemistry.

The colloquial transition from "I think" to "I feel" was probably gradual, but it only caught my attention this fall. Perhaps, the trauma induced by the economic crisis has blurred our cognition; or maybe we've cut down on our video game time and become more sensitive. Whatever the reason, people afflicted with the verbal syndrome are either up to something genius, or up to something that isn't.

After all, one could read this use of the verb as a cunning rhetorical device. Feelings, unlike thoughts and opinions, are immune to attack; or prickly at best. The next time someone responds to an "I feel" statement by making a logi-

cal dent in it, counter by saying your feelings have been hurt. The next time a professor expresses a point of view you disagree with, let him know he can't tell you how to feel.

In reality, though, "I feel" is just another example of sloppy language becoming a fad. The trouble is these fads usually stick. Separate words first grow hyphens, then

**The next time a professor expresses a point of view you disagree with, let him know he can't tell you how to feel.**

morph like Siamese twins (to-morrow eventually becomes 'tomorrow'). The stately William Strunk, in *The Elements of Style*, lambasted us for confusing "hopefully" with "it is to be hoped." That battle is long lost. Grammatical genocide is committed daily when "people who" (implying that the subject is, or once was, a living, breathing human being) are cast into mass graves of "people that."

Here are a few more culprits in the vocabulary department: "Actually" should not be used unless subsequent in-

formation actually warrants it. "Basically" all synopses start with this word. In 99 percent of cases when it's used in speech, it shouldn't be. "Like" seriously.

My fear is that we are underestimating the impact of language on our thought process. We naturally discern feelings (physical sensation) from thoughts (mental process), and therefore have separate names for the two; but when we start using "I feel" and "I think" interchangeably, we eventually forget that they aren't the same. Academic discussion is grounded in epistemology, and saying that the means by which you arrive at a logical conclusion is physical sensation is absurd, if not plain stupid.

Stephen Colbert described this phenomenon in an interview with The Onion's A.V. Club: "It used to be, everyone was entitled to their own opinion, but not their own facts. But that's not the case anymore... Truthiness is 'What I say is right, and [nothing] anyone else says could possibly be true.' It's not only that I feel it to be true, but that I feel it to be true. There's not only an emotional quality, but there's a selfish quality."

I'm glad there's a celebrity who feels the same way I do.

ANDREY TOLSTOY '10 IS FROM  
ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA.



## A preface to lunch: James O'Brien Comments on comments

As finals approach and campus stress levels are spiking, I'd like to examine one of the possibilities for stress release that the internet provides: anonymously commenting about articles, videos, and music. Though not nearly as popular as pornography Web sites and fantasy football leagues, commenting on online articles seems to be oddly prominent. The same forces behind our compulsive status updates on Facebook seem to be driving this drive to let our opinions loose. Any video on YouTube is inevitably followed by a never-ending string of comments, most of which make me feel worse about myself and the whole human race.

Looking at reader comments on [www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com) always makes me sad. I am debating whether or not to start a movement — complete with a fund-raising march and the hundreds of fliers that are necessary to create a "movement" — to remove the option to comment online on Middlebury Campus articles, or any other articles, for that matter. Although there are rare compliments on articles, the majority of comments are frighteningly spiteful. I wonder if these online commentators ever heard that old adage, "If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all." Or, more likely, it is because they follow this rule in their real lives that they feel the need to break it anonymously. I suppose it could be argued that negatively commenting on articles or YouTube videos provides an outlet for otherwise destructive emotions, but it also creates a cycle of discontentment. Arguments between Loverboy143 and JerseyGalxxx over the merits of T-Pain's vocal talent should be eliminated.

Comments regarding an article called "Orientating back to school" from the 9/12/07 edition of *The Campus* should prove my point. Someone calling themselves "anon" posted on 9/25/08 @ 2:56 PM EST: "I believe the word you were searching for is 'ORIENTING,' not 'ORIENTATING,' kind of embarrassing." In my opinion, it is more embarrassing that this anonymous person felt the need to comment on a 50 word article that was written a year earlier.

Online comments like the "anon" one put more negativity out into the world via

the Internet. It doesn't seem that "anon" is attempting to make any sort of constructive criticism, but instead would like us to realize that he/she is more intelligent than the editors of *The Campus*. This is a seemingly useless endeavor since the anonymous nature of the comment ensures that "anon" will never receive full credit for his/her brilliant observation.

So why is this type of commenting so popular?

In a way, it's a result of the same type of drive that leads us to do things like study for forty-eight straight hours without sleeping. It's not necessarily a good idea, but it makes us feel like we're accomplishing something.

When commenting on articles or message boards, we show that we're not content to allow thoughts to exist only in our heads. It speaks to our obsession with productivity that we feel it necessary to justify the time we've taken to read and think by producing something tangible, even if it is something as inane as commenting on (or writing) a *Campus* article. We want to be able to see or feel how we've spent our time, to perceive some progress. In accordance with our culture, spending time without any sort of tangible result makes us nervous. If we're not actively consuming or producing, we feel useless.

Please, relax, consumers and producers. I know that when someone tells you to relax, it usually just makes you more upset, but just give it a shot. Understand that just by breathing we are consuming oxygen and producing carbon dioxide. So really, we are always being productive — excluding those times when we are engaged in breath-holding contests.

And please, don't read the online version of *The Campus*. Leave your room and go to the dining hall where you can read the environmentally unfriendly version of the newspaper. This allows you to drink some tea, leave newspaper irresponsibly strewn about the dining hall, and share some opinions without being anonymous. Breathe in, breathe out, and smile, because the difference between orienting and orientating just isn't that important.

JAMES O'BRIEN '10 IS FROM  
MEDFIELD, MASS.

## OP-ED: George Altshuler and Will Bellaimey Election day was just the start

Middlebury's democratic culture was out in force earlier this month on election day, often with a capital "D." After months of working quietly with a few dedicated volunteers, College Democrats were overwhelmed with the passion and dedication of the several hundred students who showed up at Coltrane and made over 6000 calls to get out the vote for Barack Obama. It was not the crowd you'd expect: athletes and actors, art and physics

majors, international and just-outside-Boston, these students made calls side by side because they shared the same vision of America's future. As the results came in, we joined the mass of students celebrating like we'd just won the Super Bowl.

It was a night to remember.

But we need to go beyond Obama-mania. Despite our overwhelmingly blue voting habits, or perhaps because of them, we don't spend much time discussing and questioning our own political values on this campus. All too often, students drift along without ever asking each other to think critically about their fundamental beliefs — moral, cultural and yes, political. We need to spend more time challenging ourselves and each other outside the classroom.

In this defining moment all Americans need to reflect on their long-held beliefs and engage in a more open and candid exchange of ideas. Starting here at Middlebury. We can all take better advantage of the many different perspectives on this campus.

Back when this campaign was in its infancy, a group of Middlebury students started meeting on Saturday afternoons to discuss the moral questions that shape our political views. Among the founding members were the presidents of both College Democrats and College Republicans. But the purpose of the group is not to square off and defend our par-

ties' positions. Instead we are committed to working through difficult questions together and openly.

Activism has an important role to play in the political life of a college, and we are proud of Middlebury's history of environmental and social activism. The Sunday Night Group's pragmatic action towards making our campus carbon neutral was a poster-child for college activism at its best.

However, too often activism here is focused on "raising awareness," a liberal euphemism for preaching to the unenlightened masses of the dining halls. Truly construc-

tive discussion must be two-way. It is only by engaging those that we disagree with that we can understand our own values and work towards solutions.

If we are to heal the bitter political divide that has torn this nation apart, these conversations need to become a part of our campus culture. We need organizations that bring students together to have those critical conversations that rarely happen at the homogenous dining hall tables: athletes and actors, art and physics majors, international and from just-outside-Boston, SNG, AAA and MOQA.

For our part, we will work to revitalize College Democrats as a center for such valuable discussion. We need both thoughtful and critical discourse on this campus and across the country. We challenge you to live up to the ideals we celebrated on election day by stepping out of your comfort zones and questioning yourself and others. Don't sit back. This is our time.

GEORGE ALTSHULER '10 IS FROM  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

WILL BELLAIMEY '10 IS FROM MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. THEY ARE THE CO-PRESIDENTS  
OF THE COLLEGE DEMOCRATS

## Letters to the Editor

### To the Editor:

In *The Campus*' Green Issue, Rich Wolfson ("Green's quantitative side," Nov. 20) argues that environmentalists here at Middlebury College ought to use more quantitative data to back the arguments we make. He posits, "being an authoritative environmentalist means being able to grapple with quantitative issues." This assertion is poignant and timely. The notion that the environmental movement is driven by wealthy elitists who care more about the fate of polar bears than poverty is in part due to an ephemeral discourse that steers clear of the economics or the scientific nature of environmental issues. I must, however, advise caution in the interpretation of the Professor's suggestions.

Environmentalists today have the responsibility to integrate scientific data with a moral discourse. If we do not use economics to value ecosystem services, or physics, biology and chemistry to predict what changes rising atmospheric carbon will bring, we are reduced to a moral argument in which one camp thinks the earth is more important and the other disagrees. Empirical data have shown us that humans depend on and are part of the environment, and that economic success and ecological health are inexorably tied.

However, it must be acknowledged that environmentalism boasts a less tangible side. Humans have a deep-seated desire to connect to natural places. Reducing our consumption as much as we need to will require a cultural change that engages our perceptions of what is right and responsible. To eliminate this side of environmentalism is to adopt the attitude that the world is a puzzle to be solved, a system to fix. This attitude eliminates the human element. We need to change the way we grow and purchase food. We need to change the way we perceive our connection to land. We need to change the way we get from point A to B. All of these changes have quantitative elements, but they also appeal to what we think is right, just and good. You can't measure that with calipers.

Sincerely,  
Jefferson Bates '08.5

### To the Editor:

As a store owner of Sweet Cecily on Main Street whose back porch overlooks Otter Creek Falls, I can attest to how emotionally involved this community was in Nicholas Garza's disappearance. I was upset to read that there had been a private Memorial Service for him at the College ("College, family seek closure in Garza memorial service," Nov. 13).

The downtown shop owners had posters in their windows for months, closed their shops to search for him and said many prayers for him walking over the bridge. I can't tell you how much sincere caring and concern we all had as we saw his mother and his aunt around our town.

We assumed that at some point there would be a vigil so that the very group that lived this horrible event close up and daily could come to terms with its end. The Otter Creek will not seem the same for a long time to anyone who was around all those months.

We all mourn in our own way and try to have some closure as best we can, but it would have been important for this community to have had the chance to show Nick's family just how much we did hold him in our hearts and felt like he was "one of our own," as I had heard they asked us to do as the search continued.

Years will pass and the tree that was planted in his memory will grow and become one testament to this young life, and that was a fitting tribute, but there seems to have been a missed opportunity here, an insensitive exclusion of so many townspeople who gave so much concern and loving thoughts to a kid we never knew.

Sincerely,  
Nancie Dunn  
Middlebury, VT.

### To the Editor:

I wish to respond to the article regarding the death of Matti Rudolph ("Former student dies in town on Halloween," Nov. 6). Although the College did not make a formal announcement regarding Matti's death, *The Campus* opted to make an announcement of its own — in an unflattering front-page article.

Not only did the newspaper take the liberty of announcing Matti's death to the entire community, it did so in a way that disrespected the life of someone who meant a lot to countless current students and alumni, and failed to consider what its portrayal could mean to his family.

The article seemingly portrays Matti as a scourge on the community, and in pointing out the no trespass order, the article makes it seem as if Matti was always unwelcome at Middlebury. In fact, the events of the night of his death were misrepresented, as Matti was not forced to leave, or escorted off the campus, but instead left without trouble. However, the events of the night of his death and the nature of his death bear no meaning on the person Matti was, and in bringing up these issues the article neglects to honor the many positive characteristics that comprised him.

Those who knew Matti will always remember those traits, but it is a shame that he was portrayed postmortem, and very publicly, in a way that fails to consider them. It is true Matti was a complex person, as we all are, and I would strongly urge *The Campus* to consider these points when covering deaths in the future.

Sincerely,  
Caroline Wade '09.5

## contact the campus

The Middlebury Campus Opinions section accepts Letters to the Editor of 250 words or less and op-ed submissions up to 800 words.  
E-mail us at: [campus@middlebury.edu](mailto:campus@middlebury.edu)



## OP-ED: Annie Onishi Defending Western medicine

*Primum non nocere* — it's the Hippocratic Oath; a sacred promise that all doctors make before they begin their careers. It means: First, do no harm. I haven't taken it yet, but I'm planning on it some time in the next 10 months or so when I start medical school next August. To do no harm — a straightforward, simple, and elegant way to outline the role of the traditional Western doctor in our society. Unfortunately, this role has recently come under attack from the rising popularity of alternative healing and homeopathy.

Although I personally believe that this recent fad is a sickening manifestation of our society's gross scientific illiteracy, this is not the venue for such a broad-based tirade. Rather, I hope to defend the institution of "traditional Western" medicine — an institution in which I am a firm believer.

Do not misread me: homeopathy is not a complete hoax. Its foundation, based on the keen observation of the total patient, is its strongest talking point. The idea of treating people and not diseases is admirable; I can only hope to someday become the type of doctor that understands the person instead of the x-ray, the life-story instead of the lab results.

While the human side of homeopathy certainly holds merit, the explanation of its so-called healing abilities leaves much to be desired. In fact, even an extraordinarily basic understanding of a few simple scientific principles is enough to induce the skepticism which plagues homeopathy.

For example, the homeopathic theory of the "Law of Similars," is really referring to the biochemistry of our immune systems — how our bodies differentiate between "self" and "not self." And this is how vaccines work. We give our bodies dead versions of viruses like the flu for example, and we let our immune systems learn to recognize them, so when the real thing comes around, our white blood cells and immunoglobulins know to attack and destroy. Vaccinations are similar to the way a cheetah mom gives her cheetah baby an antelope that already has a gaping neck wound — it's just good practice.

So while the homeopathic "Law of Similars" probably has some biochemical merit, it is just not safe to mess around with natural cures and remedies until their full pharmacological effects have been elucidated — and that's the difference between traditional Western medicine and homeopathy. Both observe natural curative phenomena, but only one seeks to explain it on a rational level.

Further, there are certain homeopathic principles that, in addition to being ill-informed and unexplained, are downright dangerous. For example, the idea of treating burns with the hottest water you can stand is a clear violation of a simple rule of thermodynamics — heat flows from hot things to cold things. When you touch something cold, it feels cold because heat is leaving your body and going into the object in an effort to establish a sort of equilibrium. The assertion that heat from water will take heat from a burn is wrong; and if you follow this logic, you might as well just put your hand right back on that scalding pot.

As another example of the danger of homeopathy, its cure for seasickness — ingesting tabacum — is also somewhat curious. The leaf of the tobacco plant, *N. tabacum*, affects the body via the chemical nicotine's interaction with special receptors that are present in the nerves of your spinal cord and the nerves that connect to your muscles, as well as in certain tissues in your brain. When exposed to nicotine, these receptors are stimulated which causes the myriad effects associated with smoking your first cigarette like nausea, vomiting, and salivation. However, with prolonged exposure, these receptors actually become blocked and paralyzed. When nicotine toxicity occurs, respiratory failure is induced because the nerves that control the breathing muscles cannot fire; your airway becomes obstructed from the obscene amount of saliva and other mucosal secretions; your heart can lose its normal rhythm, you can have seizures, and you can die.

Yes, many FDA-approved drugs and medicines have such nasty effects — but only when used improperly or in unsafe doses. And these factors are explored extensively before the drugs are released onto the market; there's a reason your Claritin comes in 5 mg pills and not 500 mg pills. So how much tabacum will you ingest before your next boating trip? A pinch? A dash? A spoonful? The entire plant?

In this day and age, depending on hearsay, superstition, and gut-instinct is just down-right stupid. We are lucky to live in a society and a time where science saves lives and improves the quality of life everyday. When it comes to decisions about your health, gambling on anything but Western medicine is a risk that no one should be willing to take — there's just too much to lose.

ANNIE ONISHI '09 IS FROM  
WESTFIELD, NJ.



"There are some things that will always baffle me about Middlebury... such as why they would place this triumphant phallic industrial symbol of environmental decay right in the center of campus. Of course it reminds me that my common sense continues to exist."

John Birnbaum

## OP-ED: Josh Wessler Giving Thanksgiving new meaning

Each year in November, many people ask themselves: what does Thanksgiving mean? Is it a celebration of giving, or of receiving and being thankful? These questions often lead to a consideration of the historical understanding of the holiday, which emphasizes the bounty of the harvest, the communion with others — a symbolic, and hearty, act of acknowledging the common need for sustenance.

November is not August, however, when the harvest is at its peak and when the summer sun still casts a warm gaze. Nor is it the early spring, when the thaw brings relief along with painful reminders of what was lost in the winter. November is quite squarely set before the cold season, when survival depended upon the stores set aside in autumn and when the frost thinned the ranks — the skinny season was nothing to scoff at.

So what were early notions of Thanksgiving? It was perhaps a solemn affair, infused with gratefulness for the chance to survive the winter. A celebration, to be sure, but it was defiant as well as hopeful.

By comparison, today's November feast is just that: a gluttonous tribute to the excess and dislocation of the food industry, an onanistic ode to the materialist plunge of American society.

Or is it?

In the light of the continuing economic, shall we say, downturn, Thanksgiving appears different. Although unemployment rises, gas and food prices drop. Friends and family seem more reluctant to travel and to spend frivolously. Store owners and managers appear especially welcoming and generous with discounts.

**In the light of the  
continuing economic,  
shall we say, downturn,  
Thanksgiving appears  
different.**

This season, those that receive do so with particular grace. Those that have enough are thankful, yet reluctant to give too much, for fear of what economic freeze may come. For those without, they hope for the best, and for an early spring. (With global warming in effect, January 20 may be downright balmy).

Each year, Thanksgiving is an opportunity to ask two questions. First: what are we thankful for? Second: why do we reserve a single day to ask ourselves the first question? This economic crisis is also a time for reconsidering how our treatment of others and the world around us may help us or hurt us. It seems appropriate to ask why we reserve those questions for the moment when the sky turns gray.

JOSH WESSLER '09 IS FROM  
AUBURNDALE, MASS.

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## SURVIVING FINALS WEEK

This morning, in an effort to put off doing our homework for just a little bit longer — what's 10 more wasted minutes after an entire week of unproductivity — we got out some magic markers, inhaled their sweet and intoxicating fragrance, and channeled all of our modest artistic abilities into comprehensive finals "master" calendars. We then proceeded to siphon off every 40-minute block of time from now until Dec. 16, effectively relieving ourselves of those oppressive constraints of "freedom" and "flexibility." The good news is that we can now tell you exactly what we'll be doing from 9:40-10:20 p.m. next Wednesday (brushing our teeth, while cleaning our Uggs, while working on those journal entries we've forgotten to do all semester). The bad news is that finishing all of our assignments will, apparently, be impossible. (Granted, we did allot ourselves a generous four hours of sleep each night.)

Between professors squeezing in last-minute papers and labs before classes end and final exams fast approaching, this is undoubtedly one of the most trying periods of the academic year. We can't tell you how to best cram for your Poli Sci final, but we can say this: while it's important to keep your nose to the grindstone, you should also be sure to take the occasional mental health break or, at the very least, inject some much-needed cheer into your standard study routine. The following tips should help get you started.

— Aylie Baker and Tess Russell,

Features Editors

Photos by Andrew Ngeow and

Angela Evancie

Layout by Hannah Wilson

## Get out!

Suddenly the library seems like a sick spin-off of "Dawn of the Dead." Haggard glances and catty vies for desk reservations have become the norm. Don't be content to huddle in your corner you found in the basement. Get some air and venture down to Ilesley Public Library. With a big Christmas tree and a gaggle of giggling grandmothers you may forget your studying woes. If you experience pangs for the café, cross the street and grab a bite and — dare we say it — real coffee at Otter Creek Bakery. Return to your table content. Not to worry, the only person you're likely to be vying for elbowroom with is an unsuspecting fifth grader.

## O come all ye fretful

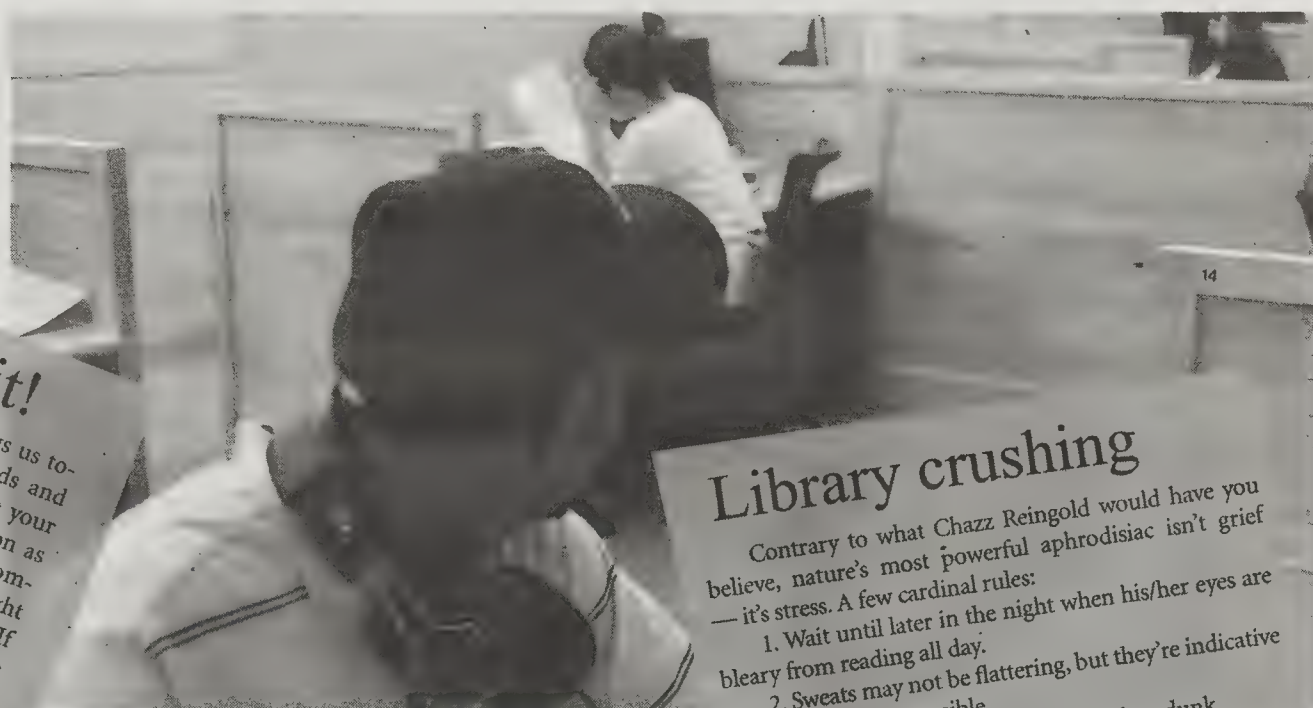
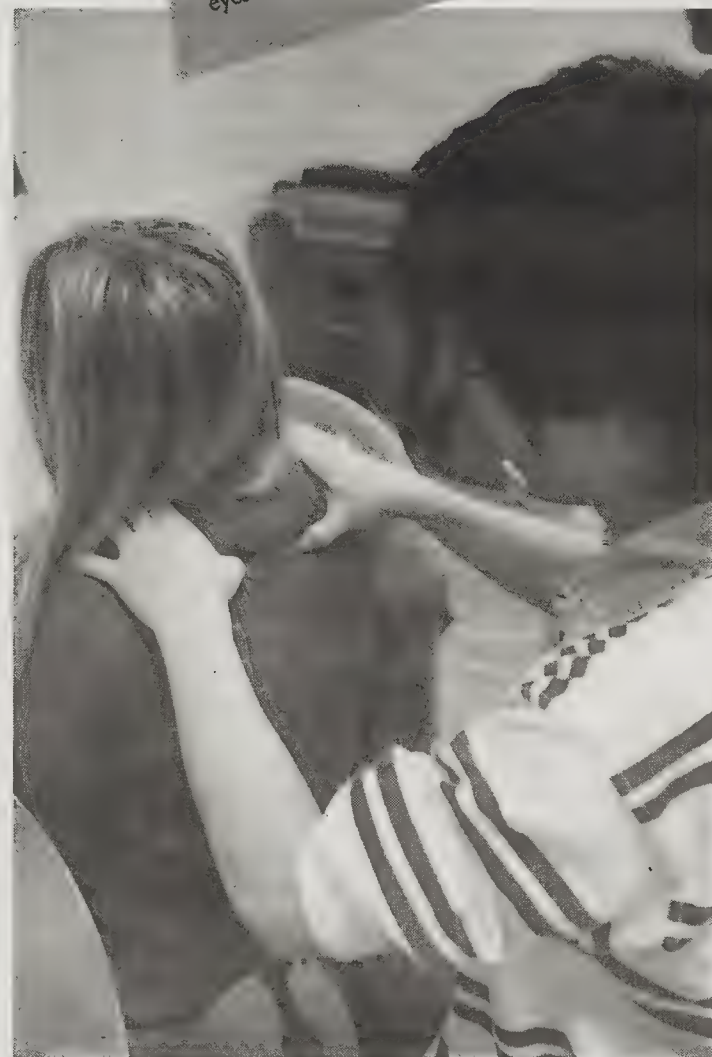
Beat the blues by embracing the spirit of the season — nothing helps diffuse stress like a rousing rendition of "Baby It's Cold Outside," whether you're most partial to Ella and Louis, Jessica and Nick, or Zoocoy and Will. If you really want to up the stakes, string together a series of Christmas clips to make your own festive "power hour" mix. Add a few strands of lights and a sprig of mistletoe, and you've got the perfect ingredients for a mellow party in your suite.

## Eat it! Just eat it!

We eat, therefore we are. Food brings us together, so plan for it. Gather your friends and muster some riveting conversation to take your mind of finals blues. Be advised that as soon as you take up your cutlery the no-judge, no-complaint rule comes into affect. That means bright teal wind pants and pajamas at dinner cut it. If you've got a rumbling grumble, take it out on the ratatouille. For a late night fix, in lieu of Midnight breakfast, order Grille delivery to your suite or a Philly cheesesteak from Two Brothers.

## Chasin' waterfalls

"Escape. Relax. Restore." So reads the tagline of Middlebury's new Waterfalls Day Spa. Translation: Escape the innards of gloomy Bi-Hall. Relax — a.k.a. chill out. Restore your sanity. Waterfalls offers a wide range of services, covering massage, feet to facial. See it as one last chance to catch your Physics crush. If he sits in the vicinity, you won't bat an elastin eye. Men, don't feel shunned — Waterfalls will leave you feeling slick and invigorated. Otter Creek Back Treatment, dig it. "Close your eyes. Relax. Waterfalls."



## Library crushing

Contrary to what Chazz Reingold would have you believe, nature's most powerful aphrodisiac isn't grief — it's stress. A few cardinal rules:

1. Wait until later in the night when his/her eyes are bleary from reading all day.
2. Sweats may not be flattering, but they're indicative of mood — and accessible.
3. Midterms = possibility; finals = slam dunk.
4. A slight touch on the shoulder as you walk by can say as much as the 1500 words he/she has due in two hours.

## Questions? Comments?

Get an in-depth look at some of the Dining Hall's best comment cards, page 13.



## Students Against Violence

A renewed organization finds its place in the College and the surrounding community, page 14.



## Eco-Sex

MiddSexGuy finds all of the colorful green ways to have sex and save the environment, page 13.



# Students strive to end sexual violence

By Rachael Jennings

FEATURES EDITOR

"I want more people to talk about sexual assault," said Aki Ito '09.

Last spring, following a movement inspired significantly by Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM) to change the College's twenty-year-old sexual assault policy, a group of students gathered in front of Old Chapel bearing signs that read: "Protect Rape Victims" and "Rape Free by ???". Everyone was wearing white, holding hands and supporting each other.

Ito was part of that influential student movement to change Middlebury College's sexual assault policy, pushing for more preventative measures and more extensive support concerning sexual assault cases.

Now, with the recent formation of the Sexual Assault Oversight Committee this fall, students have decided to move their focus away from the policy aspects of sexual assault, which the committee will be handling, to work more on educational efforts on the student level.

Ito and a group of ten to fifteen core students comprise Students Against Violence — a revamped group that works to end gender violence at Middlebury. (The organization's name and mission statement were changed this fall, as it was previously called Men Against Violence).

"Our group realizes that rape is a larger cultural phenomenon that's based on unhealthy sexual norms, but we also think that it's possible to change our campus culture from this kind of grassroots activism," said Ito.

How does Students Against Violence work to achieve their message?

16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence is an international campaign that Middlebury College students are taking on. Originating from the first Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991, this period of activism began on November 25, International Day Against Violence Against Women and ends on Dec. 10, International Human Rights Day — a symbol that such violence is a violation of human rights.

Students can also be seen across campus wearing white ribbons. These ribbons are symbols of support for the cause to end sexual violence. Students Against Violence is also taking on a Polaroid Project, in which they photograph students and faculty members holding a big white ribbon in support.

Another task is the Clothesline Project, in which Students Against Violence — working together with a few organizations from the town of Middlebury — will hold workshops that students can attend to decorate t-shirts with their own messages against sexual violence. They will then display the t-shirts around the town and the College campus.

What really inspired Ito was FAM's sexual violence speak-out, held last spring.

"I never really thought about sexual assault, about rape, as being a problem so close to me," admitted Ito. "It never even occurred to me that students were being raped on my

own college campus — in my dorm, at parties that I had been to."

Ito is not the only one who has been unaware of the frequency of sexual assault and rape — most survivors of sexual assault do not actually report their experiences to the authorities, as the experience itself can come with much shame, self-blame and humiliation.

The US Department of Justice estimates that less than 5 percent of victims of rape at-

**I want a place where checking for consent is normal, habitual, even exciting and sexy.**

— Aki Ito '09

tempts notify the authorities.

On Middlebury College's campus last year, there were 3 cases of on-campus forcible sex offenses reported to Public Safety.

"I know that a lot more students haven't been able to come forward," stressed Ito. "What's been really incredible, and really sad, was that the more I speak to people about the work we're doing, about sexual assault, I've realized that so many people have silenced their experiences."

The efforts of organizations such as FAM and Students Against Violence work tirelessly to spread awareness about the immediate at-

tention that is needed concerning sexual assault, harassment and rape.

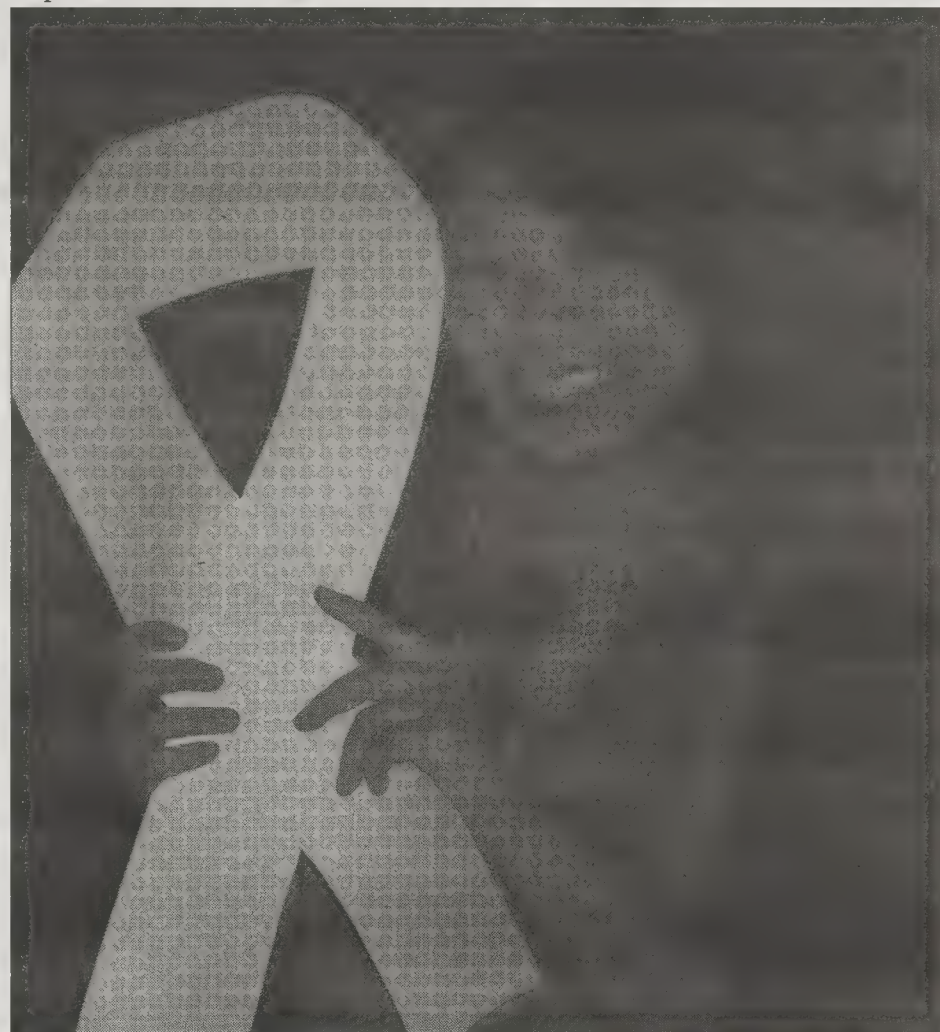
"Sexual assault is a topic that comes with so much pain, but it's only when we can have honest, open discussions about when sex goes wrong that we can prevent more rapes from happening," said Ito.

"I want a place where students can intervene on each other's behalf when they know their friends may be too drunk to make good judgments," she added. "I want a place where checking for consent is normal, habitual, even exciting and sexy. And when students do get sexually assaulted, I want to make sure that they'll have all the resources in front of them to heal and to seek justice, and for their friends to be educated about sexual assault so that they won't go through the experience alone."

Ito believes that change for the better is possible, and her hope for a safer and more supportive atmosphere on campus is well-founded. The demonstration in front of Old Chapel last year serves as a reminder: held hands and united voices manifest the positive influence activism can have.

That event, along with the abundance of white ribbons and decorated t-shirts, shows the progress of this movement forward.

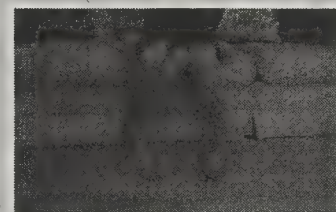
"This is an issue that's important to all of us because everyone can benefit from a safer campus," said Ito, "from a school where it's normal to clearly communicate what you want and don't want, and have those wishes respected."



Courtesy

This week students and faculty will be taking part in the Polaroid Project pledging their personal support for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence campaign.

## The D-spot



by Dina Magaril

I'm in no rush to get out of here for the December holidays. In fact, I'll probably stay in Vermont right up till Hanukkah (I've got to be home in time for the eight crazy nights of gelt and dreidel contests), basking in the warmth of my apartment and the absence of pestering questions about my future that ate away at my sanity over Thanksgiving break. For the first time in four years, I spent November break feeling homesick for Middlebury. As we went around the dinner table stating what each of us were thankful for (my 6-year-old nephew was thankful for dinosaurs, my parents were thankful that they had sent in their last college check), I thought about all the things that I really like about Middlebury. I've been told that my columns this semester have been a bit pessimistic, so I will dedicate this column, in the spirit of the upcoming holidays, to all of my favorite things about Middlebury, and just for fun, I'll list them in alphabetical order. Here goes.

Afternoons at Carol's Hungry Mind.

The Bowl: for allowing me to entertain the thought that I can become an avid skier and tell people that my school owns its own mountain at dinner parties.

'Curry in a Hurry' at the Co-op. And obviously, the Co-op.

Dyer block — for the cooking and counseling of apartment 5, the boxed set of 21 Jump Street in apartment 7 and driver extraordinaire in apartment 2. You my girls.

Editors who accept articles at 1 a.m.

Fridays at Flatbread.

G-chat — We're never really taking lecture notes.

Hot Apple Cider on a crisp fall day.

International students — accents are always sexy.

J-term — one more month to work on that thesis.

Kafka senior seminar. You think you have issues?

Lazy Lady cheese. That woman is a blending genius.

Mill parties with decipherable themes.

Neat Repeats Halloween costumes.

Otter Creek Bakery. 'Nuff said.

Professors who understand that sometimes you just had something else to do.

Queen-sized beds and other joys of living off-campus.

My Roommate — our shared affinity for late night tea and cookie parties, romantic comedies, and experiments in the kitchen.

'Soprano' sandwich at Costello's — Prosciutto and fresh mozzarella, what more can you want?

Thursdays at Two Brothers.

Unexpected good grades. You may have thought it was a shitty paper, but luckily your opinion doesn't really matter.

Visiting parents who love to brunch.

Winter in Vermont. Yes we complain, but we're gonna miss the view.

Xander. One day we'll be together.

Yelling across campus to someone you think is your friend only to find out — surprise — total stranger.

Zappos.com. Free shipping both ways!

And the list goes on. So I guess it's not so bad attending an elite liberal arts college on an idyllic campus set in the remote green mountains of Vermont. I have no idea what I've been complaining about all this time. I'm sorry. Life is really great. Maybe it's time Middlebury thought about adding more graduate programs.

## winners



&



## losers

### Future hipsters

Get ready for the new, decked out woodstove lounge in Proctor.

### The holiday season

Rum, cider, eggnog .... oh, the possibilities!

### The Economy

Congrats, as of this week we are officially in a recession.

### '09 hipsters

The lounge is a great choice for a senior class gift, but you'll never get to enjoy it.

### The Exam Week

Coffee, adderall, tea, non-alcoholic mulled cider, snacks in Wilson Cafe, Joy!

### National Bureau of Economic Research

It really took them this long to figure it out?



## the ethicist

by Amanda Greene



Right now Middlebury students feel as if events are happening at top speed. Campus looks as if it's part of a video that is endlessly playing on fast forward. The leisurely Thanksgiving meal already seems light years away and endless papers and exams have elicited the routine and dependable end-of-semester panic. How, with one week between Thanksgiving and the end of classes, are we ever going to finish all of our assignments?

We could start by not talking in the library. Imagine if students avoided the panicked calls to friends confirming (and complaining about) assignments, if we stopped calling our parents to boast about how little we've slept and if meals were arranged by silent text messages instead of through full volume conversations. The library would really be the silent place of study that its title denotes.

We could also slow down a bit in the dining halls. Imagine if students took time to sit down and eat instead of running through busy salad bar lines attempting to consume a salad on the go while reaching for a Panther cookie. I have a hunch that there would be a lot fewer meal-initiated collisions and that the dining hall staff would have a much easier time cleaning up after students. And besides, it might be nice to spend a bit of time during finals talking about something that isn't related to classes... break plans perhaps?

Lastly, the printers: Middlebury students should go into finals assuming that using campus printers is going to be a hassle. Plan to print at "off" hours and in "off" locations. Don't print that paper due at 5 pm at 4:45 because chances are that every printer in the library is going either be running on overdrive or out of commission. Anticipating printing difficulty will ease up the tension surrounding a paper's due dates and will ensure that students don't take each other out for printing a much needed 50-page e-reserve.

And now for this week's question:

Q: I'm currently enrolled in a class that my friend took last year. The class is notoriously difficult and my friend, who took meticulous notes on his laptop, lent me his binder. When I was flipping through his notes I stumbled upon last year's final exam. I believe that the professor gave the students their exams back at the end of the semester and that he intended for my friend to keep his exam for future reference. Is it ethical for me to look at and study from last year's exam?

— Enticed-by-Exam

A: In this situation, you must confront your professor and ask her whether or not she intended for last year's exam to be available to future students. Perhaps your friend inadvertently kept the exam, or perhaps it was given to students with the assumption that they would not share it with others. You must explain the circumstances to your professor and let her or him choose the most appropriate course of action. Some professors create all new exams each year and encourage past exams to circulate, and in this instance your studying from old exams would not give you any advantage over your peers. Other professors recycle exam questions because they are difficult to write, and viewing last year's exam would violate the honor code and cause you to fail this year's test. In situations such as these, it is always better to be honest and upfront rather than to risk your integrity by unintentionally cheating.

Send submissions to [amgreene@middlebury.edu](mailto:amgreene@middlebury.edu).

# Students comment on social life

## Comment cards read into more than just meal quality

By Eric Bartolotti  
STAFF WRITER

Have you ever stopped and read some of the dining hall comment cards? I have. I thought they would make a great idea for an article because they are fascinating, and because quoting a bunch of comment cards is a great way to pad my word count. I assume it is okay to quote them because they are on public display, but in all seriousness, I do not understand the underlying forces that shape copyright and plagiarism laws.

That said, after a little reading, I now understand the underlying forces that shape comment cards at Ross Dining Hall. Most comments lack names. Most comments fall into one of three categories: specific praise for favorite dishes, general praise for great service, and requests.

Regarding the first category, sourdough bread wins hands down, boasting four-plus comments. Regarding the second category, it is quite touching to see some of the nice words people write and if you are reading this article in a dining hall you should check out those cards right after you finish this article. Regarding the third category, well, more on that later. The first comment card.

### Comment #1

20 Oct

\* "Provide marshmallows with coffee after dinner (8pm - 12am)."

\* "Sorry, but that is out of the question."

I don't think the commenter thought this one through. They can't provide coffee without keeping the dining hall open and they can't keep the dining hall open without having staff. It's not practical to pay staff — even just one or two people — for four extra hours each day, especially in this econ-

omy. And if this idea happened, I can't see it being very effective beyond Ross commons. I can't see Hepburn or Allen students trekking across campus at 11:30 for coffee, even if it was served with marshmallows. All considered, there are already coffee machines in the library and Bi-Hall, two great locations, right? You have to pay — and there are no marshmallows — but they are available even after midnight.

### Comment #2

23 Oct

\* "Can you get Kix cereal please?"

\* "Sorry, but it does not come in bulk."

I was going to fill out a comment card about the absence of Honey Nut Cheerios, and then I saw this comment and figured the honey 'o's must lack bulk status too. And then I thought: why are some cereals bulk and some not? Who is bestowing this bulkiness? The cereal companies? The local distributors? Ron Liebowitz? And then I thought: whoever is bulking up these cereals probably bulked more varieties than the five or six in Ross. If we knew what these others were, then we could look for new favorites. And then I thought: maybe the ones we have now are the most affordable. And then I thought something that confuses the heck out of me: if bulk status is the key, then why do we sometimes see Frosted Mini Wheats or Total in boxes? I never imagined big bulk cereal coming in nice little boxes like in the supermarket.

### Comment #3

6 Nov

\* "What happened to getting local

bread here at Ross? It is not here or at FIC. What gives? It is so delicious. Even Hamilton and Wesleyan have it."

\* "Because of the economic downturn we need to watch what we are purchasing. That was an extra. Sorry."

The fact that the vast majority of food requests are for organic or local foods tells us the comment-filling demographic has many co-op shoppers. It's also interesting that this commenter mentioned rival schools as part of his/her argument. If only he/she had mentioned Williams. Then we'd see an uprising to bring back the local bread.

### Comment #4

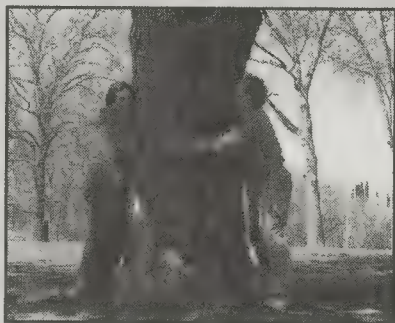
? Nov

\* "Make a friend table? How about a table where you can sit down and meet someone new? All it would take is for you guys to put up a sign on one of the big tables to encourage meeting new people. Hope to see it soon."

\* "This is interesting. I wonder how it will be received. I think it would fall upon the students to do this."

This is the comment that inspired me to write this article. I love the idea, and I want to make sure the student body sees it. I agree that this project falls on the responsibility of the students, but still I wonder how much of an impact such a table would make if the dining staff suddenly created one. As far as improving social life, I think this idea goes a lot farther than things like Middvites. While I feel that "singles table" beats "make a friend table" for title status, overall this commenter planted a bulls-eye sweet idea.

## MiddSexGuy



by A.J. Meyer

Here it is — an article about "Green Sex" even if it's not in the "Green" issue of the campus. How can sex be environmentally-friendly? I know that there are certain individuals that like to get "friendly" with the environment, but that fetish is pretty out there. So, I googled "Environment-friendly sex" and was surprised to find a large number of Web sites and articles out there promoting "Green Sex." Many claim that a commitment to the environment should touch all aspects of one's life, including one's sex life. I was also surprised to learn that many of these articles discussed the possible dangers of commonly-used sex toys and lubricants.

Many sex toys, especially those "cyberskin" and "jelly rubber" models are

made of polyvinyl chlorides (PVC's) and phthalates which can harm both the user and his/her environment. According to an article in *The Independent* entitled "Sex toys: can you get your kicks without risking your health?" PVC's can release bioaccumulative dioxins, and have also been shown to be carcinogens and hormone disruptors. Phthalates, which have been tested and banned from internal medical devices and children's toys, are still often used to soften sex toys; in fact, one study shows that they are present in seven of every eight toys. They have been shown to cause kidney failure, hormonal disruption, and cancer. In addition, the process of creating these various toys with PVC and phthalates releases harmful chemicals into the environment. If something isn't safe for a child to use, you probably shouldn't be putting it in or around your tender spots. This stuff is kind of scary.

There is now a new budding market for sex companies and stores — the "ecosexual." They claim that it is a smaller, more niche market, but there are many individuals out there that both want to enjoy sex and help the environment at the same time. They are interested in eco-lubes, bamboo sheets, hemp undies, and solar-powered vibrators (seriously). The most interesting account of combining sex with a focus on the environment was probably the Norwegian "sex activism"/pay-for porn site "F\*\*k for forest." All their proceeds go to forest conservation around the world. People are getting creative and finding

new ways to unite their sexuality with the changing world and environment around them. They are also finding that healthier living has considerable benefits as well.

As a result of the vast amounts of water pollution the meat industry causes in the United States, many individuals are switching to a healthier, more vegetable-based diet. According to planetgreen.com, not only does a diet high in vegetable consumption help the environment, it has (if avoiding broccoli, garlic, and asparagus) the ability to sweeten up your "love juices." It's an issue for everyone; men and women alike. Also, many claim that this increased vegetable diet can lead to increased stamina in the sack—which, if you've ever made some sweet love after two cheeseburgers and a bunch of fries, is pretty believable.

My favorite suggestions from planetgreen.com had to do with the idea of "green play." Say we're a green couple. Shouldn't we shower together instead of separately to conserve water? We should also probably keep the thermostat on low and have crazy hot and wild sex before we go to bed to conserve heat. I feel like "Green Sex" could potentially be a huge turn-on. Create circumstances and situations as well as a mindset to have the most sex possible for the environment. Sounds good to me.

Want to contact MiddSexGuy? Email him at [MiddSexGuy@gmail.com](mailto:MiddSexGuy@gmail.com)



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## ARTICLE BY EMMA STANFORD PHOTOGRAPHY BY NICOLAS SOHL

At the end of "Twelfth Night," the lovely and self-centered Countess Olivia (Martha Newman '10) stared around the stage and gasped, "Most wonderful!" The audience at the production could have said the same, feasting on Mark Evancho's lavish and whimsical set design and a dynamic ensemble of student actors.

"Twelfth Night" is one of Shakespeare's most popular comedies because it has something for everyone: love, confusion, humiliation, music and plenty of sexual innuendo. It tells the story of Viola (Lucy Faust '09), a young girl who has been shipwrecked off the coast of Illyria, losing her twin brother Sebastian (Michael Kessler '11) to the storm. She disguises herself as a young man and becomes a page for the moony Duke Orsino (Willim Damron '09). Viola quickly falls in love with Orsino, who is vainly courting Olivia, who somewhat improbably becomes smitten with the disguised Viola. After summarizing this tangle for the audience, Viola rumples her hair and sighs, "This is too hard a knot for me t'untie." We know how she feels. In the end, Sebastian appears alive and, after some confusion and a little old-fashioned dueling, he and Olivia and Viola and Orsino pair off neatly. Added to this is a comedic subplot in which Olivia's debauched uncle, Sir Toby (Alexander Manshel '09), his friend Sir Andrew (Willy McKay '11) and the sarcastic Maria (Sheyenne Brown '09) wreak cruel revenge on Olivia's simpering steward and

would-be suitor, Malvolio (Justine Katzenbach '08.5).

A particular spirit is necessary to pull off something like "Twelfth Night." Shakespeare presents his characters as broad caricatures, from the mincing coward Sir Andrew to the self-absorbed diva Olivia, and any attempt to wrench realism or empathy out of such characters would be doomed to fail. But under Assistant Professor of Theatre Alex Draper's '88 wise direction, the cast played up the comedy's exuberant energy without sweating details of realism. They mimicked the choreography and comic timing of an early TV comedy, prancing and swooning and drunkenly singing Mozart. Even the stage, vaguely reminiscent of a broken Greek column and surrounded by fantastical, glittering white trees, suggested that the characters lived in some superlative cartoon of the 1920s, free from everyday concerns to wallow in their romantic tangles.

The drunken duo of Sir Toby and Andrew was a joy to watch, whether singing and prancing around the stage or at desperate odds when Toby tried to convince the coward Andrew to take part in a duel. But the pinnacle of comic exaggeration was Malvolio. Katzenbach took the play's gender-bending antics a step further by playing a male character convincingly and hilariously. Malvolio is traditionally a fop-pish, overweening prude, but Katzenbach rendered him as an androgynous insect, intoning every line and teetering around the

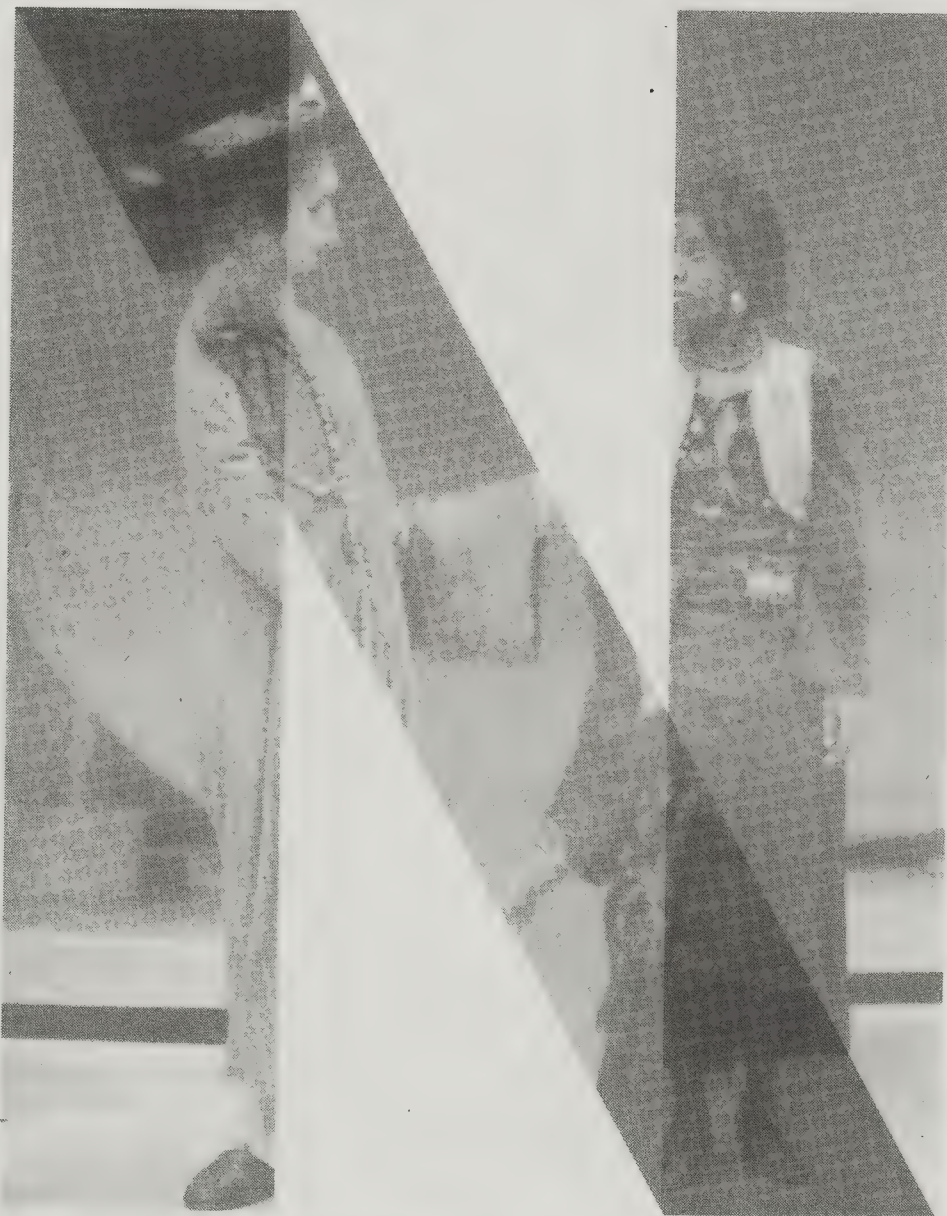
stage as if her gangly legs were moving of their own accord. The audience gleefully awaited Malvolio's every entrance, never more so than when he swayed onstage in a blaze of yellow plaid and cross garters, giddy with the illusion that Olivia was in love with him. When the histrionics of the tangled lovers became tiresome, his cartoonish exaggeration of them was a joy to watch.

In the end, realism came from an unexpected source. Amid all the scheming and deception, the fool Feste (John Glouchevitch '10.5) provided a voice of reason. He sauntered around the stage, bantering with every character, playing the drunken musician for Toby and Andrew and the witty wordsmith for Viola and Olivia. Glouchevitch provided the perfect balance of humor and practicality; for all of Feste's songs and jokes, he was primarily concerned with extracting money from the other characters. It was comforting to know that at least someone in Illyria had a more pressing concern than a manufactured love affair.

"Twelfth Night" employed a large cast of minor characters, including soldiers and sailors, and with such a strong cast of leads it was easy for the smaller roles to seem flat. At times the cast seemed polarized between cartoonish extremes of monotony and exuberance, as when Viola and Sir Andrew dueling incompetently and hilariously until several robotic soldiers intervened. But this was a trivial flaw. The Department of Theatre and Dance made Shakespeare entirely its own, and we may wait anxiously until it does it again.



# TWELFTH NIGHT



## editors' picks

### 04

**Burn This**  
MCFA Seeler  
Studio Theatre  
8 p.m.

Lauren Fondren '09, Veracity Butcher '09 and Will Damron '09 present Lanford Wilson's play about three mourning New Yorkers who are interrupted by an stranger. The play runs through Saturday, with an extra 2 p.m. show on Dec. 6.

### 04

**Dusa, Fish, Stas & Vi**  
Hepburn Zoo  
8 p.m.

In Pam Gems' "Dusa, Fish, Stas & Vi," four women sharing an apartment in London search for love and happiness. Seniors Lucy Faust and Stephanie Spencer star, and the play runs through Saturday, with an extra 10 p.m. showing Friday evening.

### 05

**Music, Dance, Light**  
Dance Theatre  
8 p.m.

Directed by Penny Campbell, Michael Chorney and Jennifer Ponder, an ensemble of dancers and musicians will demonstrate the results of a semester devoted to the study of improvisation.

### 07

**Lessons and Carols**  
Mead Chapel  
4 and 7 p.m.

Take your mind off of your final exams and put yourself in the Christmas spirit by attending Lessons and Carols, a service that traces the Christmas story through text and song.





## Spotlight on ... Emily Feldman '09

Crafted in Dublin and performed in the Champlain Valley, "Tiny Geniuses" by joint English/Theatre major Emily Feldman '09 takes audiences to the elementary school classroom. Feldman spoke to *The Middlebury Campus* about the inspiration behind the humorous work.

**The Middlebury Campus:** Of all the creative mediums, why playwriting? What drew you to the drama side?

Emily Feldman: Theatre is an electric medium of art, and that is what drew me to it. There's an immediacy inherent in having bodies on stage that audience members are forced to engage with, and that doesn't translate to television or film where you can separate yourself a little bit from the piece you are experiencing. I've been involved in theatre from a couple of different angles, but playwriting has been one of the most rewarding. It is exciting to see an idea move from a computer screen into the mouths of actors, and the process of creating a piece together and learning what works and what doesn't in a workshop process is the ultimate collaborative experience.

**TC:** So, "Tiny Geniuses." Was there a specific moment that was the basis for the play, or was this an idea that you have been tweaking for a long time?

EF: As for "Tiny Geniuses," a beloved teacher at the school where I grew up was forced out of her career by parents who felt that their money gave them power to force change, and I got mad. Sitting at my kitchen table last summer, holding a letter from my high school principal asking alums and community members to support the school in fair and equitable decision making processes in the best interest of its students was a surreal experience. I felt like I had been lifted from the moral universe and thrown into a dystopia I could hardly have invented. When I looked up from the page, however, my dog was staring at me through the window from the same suburban backyard I have called home for the past seven years. The realization that my values seemed to be at odds with my community's drove me to my computer, and I began work on "Tiny Geniuses."



Angela Evancie

**TC:** In an environment as academic as Middlebury, students are used to a certain amount of stress and intellectual rivalry. Why did you decide to move the competition to a younger grade level? How do you find your play translates to college-age audiences?

EF: I wanted to set "Tiny Geniuses" in an elementary school because it is a play about what happens when dueling visions of moral order collide, and what this means for kids who are brought into our existing realities with only what we teach them as ammunition. The relationships we have with children who only know what we teach them says a lot about who we are as a society and what we value. Kids are also really funny.

**TC:** We're all aware of the stage mom, helicopter parent phenomenon. Did you have a specific cultural commentary in mind when writing "Tiny Geniuses?"

EF: I wasn't really thinking about cultural commentary as much as I was focused on having fun while I've been working on "Tiny Geniuses." I've been really lucky to have been able to develop it here at Middlebury with some incredibly talented actors and professors who have helped me hone the humor and laughed at some of my sillier jokes. The social critique part of things came later, but the fun and the storytelling was my main concern. While studying in Dublin, Ireland last spring, I circulated my script to a new group of peers and faculty members, who encouraged me to strip away some of the theatrical devices I had been exploring, and to pare my play down to its most basic constituents. "The simpler, the better" became the mantra of the semester, and the revision strengthened my understanding of the project.

**TC:** Sorry to drop the 'f-bomb,' but any future plans for playwriting? Do you think you would ever consider transferring over to screenwriting?

EF: Ah the future — I'm not sure what I'll be doing next year, but I just found out last week that I've won a season-long "Core Apprenticeship" at The Playwright's Center in Minnesota, so sometime this spring they will be flying me out there for a 10-hour professional workshop. I'm very excited about it, beyond that my plans are up in the air. I hope to keep writing, collaborating, and having fun.

— Melissa Marshall, Arts Editor

## MAP explores artful approaches to boost interest

By Alexxa Gotthardt

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Last Thursday 85 students gathered at the Middlebury College Museum of Art (MCMA), transforming the oft-secluded space into an unexpected pop-up hangout. Organized by the Museum Assistants Program (MAP), a group of 17 student volunteers trained in museum education, the after-hours gathering began with small-group gallery tours, and ended with a lively reception complete with hors d'oeuvres, cider and wine. The event, dubbed MAP and Friends, highlighted recent efforts by MCMA and MAP to bring an increased number of Middlebury students to the Museum. The evening was sponsored jointly by MCMA and the Department of History of Art and Architecture.

According to Curator of Education Sandi Olivo, Education Interns Sonia Epstein '09, Pujan Ghandi '09 and Ramona Richards '09 brainstormed the event after conducting tours at an exhibition presentation and wine tasting organized for MCMA's membership group, Friends of the Art Museum (FOAM). At this function, FOAM invited non-members with the hopes that they would join the Museum. Similarly, at the recent student-centric event, each Museum Assistant invited several friends who they hoped would enjoy learning about MCMA.

"We wanted to exclusively invite students to the event because it is the Middlebury student body that forgets that the Museum is for us," said Richards of the inspiration for MAP and Friends. "We share it with local school groups and visitors, but it is a teaching museum and it is ours to enjoy, but hardly anyone makes it down there."

Increasing student attendance and participation is among MCMA's primary goals, matched only by the Museum's commitment to strengthening its permanent collection. The former task, however, has proved difficult. Director of MCMA Richard Saunders outlined several challenges that might hinder student turnout including the Museum's peripheral campus location, the presence of security and the perception of exhibitions as distant or stuffy. Saunders also attributed the lack of student attendance to the busy lifestyle at the College.

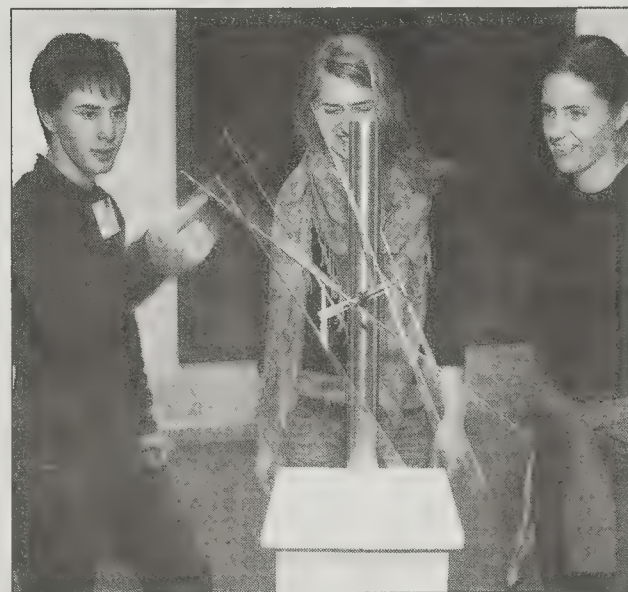
"Middlebury students have many options that compete for their time (classes, assignments, dining, sleeping, spending time with friends, staying fit, etc.), so the time actually allocated to an otherwise seemingly unrelated visual experience — going to a museum — is finite," said Saunders. "Our goal, then, is to determine how we can make students more curious about visiting the museum in their already activity laden days."

Though these challenges are real, the Thursday evening gathering seemed to suggest they are not insurmountable. Many of the guests had never set foot in the Museum, and even more students attended the event than anticipated by the RSVPs. Discussion throughout the tours was animated, ranging from talk of ancient Chinese painting and poetry spurred by the visiting exhibition "Artists and Ancestors" to musings on photography of the 1980s and AIDS inspired by an iconic Robert Mapplethorpe image.

After exploring the Museum's various galleries, students lingered at the reception, sipping wine and mingling. Leah Bevis '09 summed up the reactions of many of the guests.

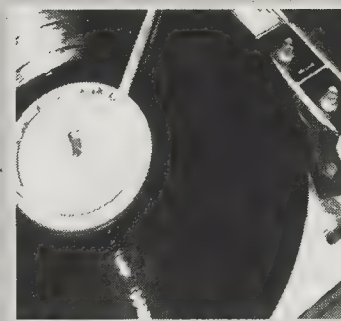
"I wouldn't say that I generally think of the Museum as a student space, but being led by student tour guides definitely made it seem more accessible," said Bevis. "To dress up, have a glass of wine and talk about art with friends made it seem like a special occasion."

Saunders, too, recognized the success of the event, hinting at more student-aimed functions to come at MCMA. "My sense is that many students are very eager to accept invitations by their peers to visit the museum," said Saunders. "So my hope is that this kind of activity will become a regular part of our annual events planning."



Courtesy of the Museum of Art

Students interact with one of the museum's many sculptures.



## for the record

by Jason Gutierrez

It's that time; time for the "best of" lists to start rolling out. It might be a little bit early for me to jump into this list-making frenzy, but a look ahead at the upcoming album releases tells me I won't be missing out on much if I start early. This might be making a huge assumption, but somehow I don't think the new All-American Rejects album is going to revolutionize the way we, as a society, listen to music. In any case, this is what's been blasting out of my headphones this year.

**1. "Rabbit Habbits" by Man Man** — Lurking behind the circus-show front this Philly-based band puts up is a wounded showman in the form of Honus Honus. While the music may be bizarre, the lyrics are positively devastating. Songs like the title track and "Easy Eats or Dirty Doctor Galapagos" both paint the portraits of relationships gone wrong in the form of three-minute pop songs of the absurd. What makes Man Man's latest offering truly spectacular is that they present songs that cover a lot of the same thematic territory as other pop songs (admittedly, the eight-plus minute long "Dear Jackie," which imagines being murdered by a female Jack the Ripper, isn't exactly standard pop fare), but do it in a completely original and inventive way. It's a fantastic album that is head and shoulders above everything else that came out this year.

**2. "For Emma, Forever Ago" by Bon Iver** — Although technically released in 2007, the incredibly poignant debut album from Bon Iver (a.k.a. Justin Vernon) got a proper release from Jagjaguwar Records in 2008. "For Emma, Forever Ago" is largely made up of demos Vernon recorded while in self-imposed exile at a winter cabin in the woods of northern Wisconsin. In an age when emotional lyrics are more a business plan than anything else, there is a lot to be admired in someone who is sincere when he puts his heart on his sleeve.

**3. "Feed The Animals" by Girl Talk** — I'm almost positive that Girl Talk (Gregg Gillis) loves the fair use clause of American copyright law almost as much as the Film & Media Culture Department. Gillis' latest offering uses a mind-boggling 300+ samples, all in the name of creating the greatest piece of pop art since Warhol started doodling soup cans. Plus, there is a sort of bent appeal to hearing Tom Petty's "American Girl" sped up with Timbaland's "Drop" playing over it.

**4. "Stay Positive" by the Hold Steady** — "Me and my friends are like / the drums on Lust for Life / we pound it out on floor toms / Our songs are sing-a-long songs," The Hold Steady's frontman Craig Finn sings/speaks on, "Constructive Summer," the opening track of "Stay Positive." It's almost as if Finn has reached through thirty years of recorded music, grabbed Iggy Pop by the throat, and shook him around while yelling, "We will rock harder than you." They do. It's awesome.

**5. "Same Old Song" by Greg Baldwin & the Aesthetics** — Much was made of just-out-of-college bands Vampire Weekend and Ra Ra Riot this year. Nothing was made of this still-in-college band from New York's Westchester County. Baldwin and Co. aren't out to reinvent the wheel; they just want to make you dance a little bit and smile even more. They succeed. Their debut album is chock-full of fantastically catchy (but not saccharine) power-pop ditties that you can't help but love and then replay.

**6. "The Stand Ins" by Okkervil River** — Conceived as the second half to last year's "Stage Names," Okkervil River's latest offering divided critics and fans alike. I found myself thoroughly enthralled by "The Stand Ins." It isn't as immediately accessible as its predecessor, but it is a more than worthy companion. In "Lost Coastlines" and "Calling and Not Calling My Ex," bandleader Will Sheff has created two of this year's best songs.

**7. "Airing of Grievances" by Titus Andronicus** — Titus Andronicus is an emo band for people who hate emo bands. They're also a hyperliterate band for people who hate hyperliterate bands. Such is the contradiction that is Titus Andronicus. Their debut album borrows a bit from The Pixies, Black Flag and Bruce Springsteen, but it's all so convincingly put together that you barely even notice their influences. Lead singer Patrick Stickles has a voice that sounds like Conor Oberst yelling at a bear, which is made not only tolerable but pleasant by the manic energy of his band and the tightly constructed songs. It might sound like a mess, but it's a fantastic mess.



# 'Dying City' takes enlivened stance on political issues

By Jessie Kissinger  
STAFF WRITER

"Theater, no matter how temporary it might be, is a space that demands its audience to respond and react as a community," read the program of "Dying City," the Theatre Department 700 project of Meagan Mishico '08.5 (directing) and Justine Katzenbach '08.5 (acting).

"Dying City" went up in the Hepburn Zoo Nov. 20 through Nov. 22nd. Written by contemporary playwright Christopher Shinn, this smart script integrated domestic and war-related traumas.

The play opens a year after the death of Craig (Sasha Hirsch '10.5), Kelly's (Katzenbach) husband. An unexpected visitor,

Craig's brother Peter (also Hirsch) shows up at her door. Peter's presence provokes a series of flashbacks in which Kelly relives the night before Craig leaves for Iraq, reawakening the complications of a marriage that existed amidst the white noise of an unpopular war. By slowly unfurling the true dynamic of Kelly and Craig's marriage, the play's structure acts as a form of denial, bringing home perhaps Shinn's — and certainly Mishico's — intentions to awaken the audience's suppressed grief surrounding the war in Iraq.

"This piece deals with the morality of war," said Mishico. "It attempts to address the fact that our culture and our generation, more often than not, chooses to not deal with what is going on. No matter where you are from, no matter where you went to school, this trauma

affects us all. How do you overcome what seems too painful to even deal with? We just need to keep talking about it and exploring it and not try to hide it away."

Mishico and Katzenbach decided to collaborate on their Senior 700 project last fall while working together on "The Heidi Chronicles." They then began looking for a play this spring.

"We read what felt like hundreds of plays before falling upon 'Dying City,'" Katzenbach explained. "When we read it, we both immediately were gripped by its subject matter, the theatrical opportunities it proposed, as well as the story it told."

"We wanted a contemporary play with a small cast that would make an impact on our peers. We wanted the play to speak to issues that our generation faces," Mishico elaborated.

The production wavered a little at its start, but ultimately pulled through, creating a poignant depiction of three people learning to cope with the despair generated by actions both in and out of their control.

Katzenbach, recently the devastatingly funny Malvolio in the faculty production of William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," proved a few weeks ago to be an incredibly talented comedic actress. While performing in the Wright Memorial Theatre, she left her audience in stitches. Her performance in the Hepburn Zoo, an intimate black box theatre, initially left some desire for subtlety. That said, both Katzenbach and Hirsch seemed to require a period of adjustment. As they eased deeper into their roles and the audience acclimated to a heightened sense of reality, their performances gave life to scenes bursting with intensity, especially those between Kelly and

Craig.

Like Katzenbach, Hirsch also dealt with the challenge of taking on two roles, except that both of his were in the same play, as Shinn's script specifies that both Peter and Craig be played by one actor.

Said Hirsch, "Shinn's language creates two very different brothers who struggle with a shared history and a complicated relationship, and yet he writes them honestly so that we can identify with them easily."

The doubling was especially powerful when Peter read aloud e-mails from his brother in Iraq. By allowing the characters to share one actor, the words took on a dual resonance, evoking the perspectives of both brothers.

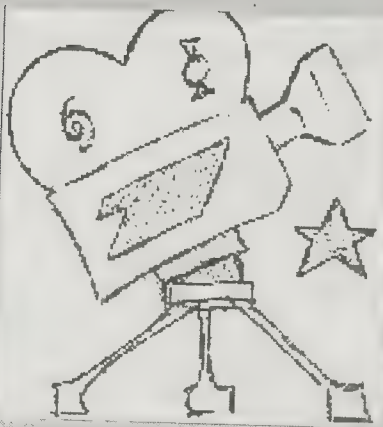
Mishico highlighted the script's attention to technology. Phones break up the scenes, allowing for flashbacks, Kelly often perches herself in front of the TV and even Craig's deeply personal writings during the war are filtered through e-mail.

"I think America uses technology to hide or cover up our fear or our pain," said Mishico, "but you can't be passive in theatre. If done well, theatre can be a powerful, visceral experience that encourages or even provokes an emotional response. You need that catharsis in order to even begin to think about healing."

"Dying City" demanded that its audience address both contemporary issues surrounding the war in Iraq as well as timeless issues concerning the complexities of familial and romantic relationships. And as Mishico and Katzenbach intended, this production offered a communal experience of confrontation and relief.



Justine Katzenbach '08.5 gives a raw, emotive performance while reading her husband's emails. Angela Evancie



## THE REEL CRITIC

by Josh Wessler

**MOVIE |** Quantum of Solace  
**DIRECTOR |** Marc Forster  
**STARRING |** Daniel Craig & Olga Kurylenko

Somewhere along the way to the box office, James Bond lost his sense of humor. Well, not exactly. In the theatre where I watched "Quantum of Solace," there were plenty of laughs, though most were stifled — perhaps some audience members felt a bit self-conscious. As in a Roadrunner cartoon, we laughed when enemies were thrown off tall buildings and punched repeatedly in the face. Except, the flying fists were not comical in a satirical manner, but rather for their raw and unflinching portrayal on the screen. Not only a super-agent, the new Bond is a super-hero, whose impermeable gaze suggests skin of steel. He may not have fun, but part of the trick is that we can have fun at his expense.

In case CNN had not alerted you, these are not humorous times. While previous generations laughed giddily at their Batman comics, today's audiences know Bruce Wayne's tortured soul, ripped out by Heath Ledger's horrifying grin. "Why

so serious?" he taunted us. "How could we not be?" we answered.

Whereas the James Bond of the sixties and seventies (and perhaps even the eighties) was quick-witted and strangely unassuming (who else would walk into the enemy's lair and pronounce, "the name's Bond?"), today's 007, played by Daniel Craig, is pathological. His love fueled the passions in "Casino Royale" (2006), while revenge motivates his crusades in "Quantum of Solace." The pretense is that things are not simple like they once were. The spy came in from the void, and the world fractured into painful shards.

The latest Bond film lives simultaneously in the past and the present. It segues from "Casino Royale," which served as a prequel to all the other Bond movies produced before it. Still, the two latest films, both starring Craig, take place in a contemporary setting. As if history was at once lived presently and reflected on, a timeless and timely Bond finds himself enmeshed in a global environmental imbroglio that takes him to a politically unstable Bolivia. Although earlier Bond films clearly referenced the Cold War landscape, it is unusual for a Bond film to allude so specifically to people, places and current geopolitical situations. It is no longer sufficient to fight an ambiguous Bad Guy sitting in a faceless station stroking a cat (yes, that sounds like Mike Myers' Dr. Evil, but it was taken from some of the earliest 007 films).

Instead, Craig's Bond happens across a complex plot to overthrow a popularly-elected government and install a military junta with implicit backing from the CIA, among others. In contrast to most Bond films, there is no direct global threat in "Quantum of Solace." The enemy, it turns out, is not simply the Bolivian military or the brash and naïve wing of U.S. foreign intelligence, but also a supranational corporation that specializes in ecological preservation. The impending crisis threatens human lives and political sovereignty, but there is no bomb about to explode the Earth. Sure, one could argue, the threat of neoliberalism is global, but it is not an issue James Bond alone can solve.

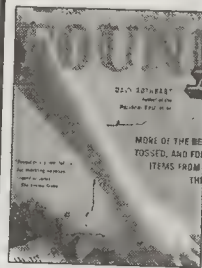
Crucially, Bond entangles himself by happenstance and proceeds in his investigations without the consent of the British government. Even his most loyal supporter, M (Judi Dench), head of MI6, begins to waver and doubt his efficacy. Because the recent films are prequels, the audience likely knows what Bond will become: a womanizing and supremely intelligent agent of a global war against communism. The cause, righteous or not, made the man. In today's films, we are left with an invincible character searching for justification. We know he will live, but what will he live for?

As world media travels increasingly further and faster, the visual pace of entertainment has similarly quickened. It is now cliché to note the fast editing styles of action flicks such as these, but notably, it is not always a detriment. In "Quantum of Solace," the visual flightiness becomes rhythmic and nearly poetic. A footchase on the ochre rooftops of Siena, Italy dances impetuously and hypnotically. The epic grandeur and tension of a scene set at Puccini's opera "Tosca" hints at Coppola's famous blend of opera and complot. Unlike Coppola, however, and most other great filmmakers, director Marc Forster avoids any break in the pace and spoils the chance for climactic build and cathartic release. The explosive end replaces self-reflection and vainly asks us to savor something we barely had a chance to ingest.

In one sense, M fails to rein in her rogue agent, though it becomes clear that if Bond is to maintain 007 status he must grow up and respect authority — no one knows exactly who the enemy is, much less a solitary British agent blinded by revenge. Ostensibly, Sean Connery's Bond once came from Russia with love, but we now know that the real love affair was with the Cold War itself. It fed his restlessness and satisfied his thirst for danger. In this post-binary, post-colonial, post-American, post-sovereign world, who needs James Bond? Judging by the box office returns, many of us still do, perhaps because we feel we are not "post"-anything, but instead living in many geo-political spheres at once.

## Suggestion Box

From our bookshelves, iPods and laptops to your Thursday morning breakfast table, here are our recommendations for the best of recent culture.

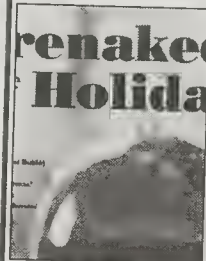


**FOUND Magazine**  
(foundmagazine.com)  
Ever find an old note in a library book or a strange Polaroid at a garage sale? The guys behind FOUND Magazine thrive on that kind of stuff, compiling

Courtesy these small scraps,

ranging from the bizarre and hilarious to sad and undecipherable, into books as well as magazines available through back order. Their Web site includes a "Find of the Day." If you wonder what they do with all the R-rated stuff, there's also Dirty FOUND, a separate magazine for racier finds.

— Grace Duggan



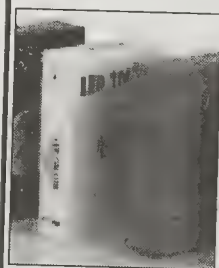
**Barenaked for the Holidays**

**Barenaked Ladies**

While it may be a little too chilly to bare it all during the Middlebury holiday season, The Barenaked Ladies' Christmas disc is sure to

Courtesy give you that warm, cozy feeling. No, that tingle is not only from the eggnog, it's also from the cheer and goodwill packed into the pop of the band's renditions of secular and sanctified classics.

— Melissa Marshall



**Cool Hunting Holiday Gift Guide**

This trendy website (www.coolhunting.com), which is run by some self-important New Yorker, offers a nifty gift guide for the artistically inclined.

Courtesy Where else could you

find out about cigarette pack-sized editions of classic literature (pictured above), or a \$270 antler lamp, for that family member or aloof hipster who has everything?

— Andrew Throdahl



# Spoken word presence sparks student response

## Renowned poet opens up to crowd

By Grace Duggan  
ARTS EDITOR

Say what you will about the word "networking," but sometimes it really is about who you know. In this case, it was Melissa Hammerle who proved to be a useful connection; this local resident put D.E. Axinn Professor of English & Creative Writing Jay Parini in contact with her a friend of hers, none other than Breyten Breytenbach, the world-famous poet, fiction writer, painter and activist. Breytenbach graciously accepted an invitation to come to the College, which culminated in a standing-room only reading in the Axinn Center's Abernethy Room on Nov. 20.

Interspersed between riveting introductions brimming with anecdotes seemingly out of the movies, Breytenbach read selections from "Windcatcher: New and Selected Poems, 1964-2006" and "Lady One: Of Love and Other Poems."

Said Parini, "He has a wonderful sense of language: highly particular, musical, and full of vivid images. He has an appealing sense of place, and he has a strong political angle."

Breytenbach's reading was an apt inaugural event for the Axinn Center's Abernethy

Room. Sponsored by the Creative Writing Program as well as the Axinn Fund, the afternoon was much more than a poetry reading; for many it was the chance to hear a rare first-hand account of life both under and fighting against the now defunct — but still influential — Apartheid system. A prominent member of the resistance group "Okhela," Breytenbach was arrested and sentenced to nine years in prison in South Africa. He spent over seven years in jail, a time during which he continued to write poems on whatever scraps of paper he could find.

Breytenbach complemented his beautiful, haunting and lyrical poems with candid responses to audience members' probing inquiries into his past. Questions from students prompted him to reflect on his many years as an expatriate — he has traveled extensively, settling for some years in places like northern Spain, Paris and New York City — along with topics as varied as his time in prison, the nature of multilingualism, the meaning of "home" and his favorite used bookstores. First and foremost a poetry reading, the reading's true success stemmed from Breytenbach's willingness to discuss his part in South Africa's scarred past and still-healing present.



Andrew Ngeow

Standing in front of a packed crowd, poet and activist Breyten Breytenbach read from a couple of his many poetry collections in the restored reading room of the Axinn Center.

## Slam poet's performance a slam dunk

By John Patrick Allen  
STAFF WRITER

Staceyann Chin removed her shoes and socks (revealing toenails painted a shimmering green) and wove through the audience to stand in the center of the room, where she began to recite her poem, "Why I Love My Pussy."

Chin was last Thursday's headliner at Verbal Onslaught, a monthly poetry reading and spoken-word performance held at 51 Main. Verbal Onslaught typically fields only student writing. This time, however, a number of groups, including MOQA and the Office of Institutional Planning and Diversity, collaborated to bring Chin, an internationally known poet, political activist and performer to Middlebury.

Before Chin's performance, students from the College (and one from a local high school) read original poems and improvised verses in a rap-like "cipher" format. The intervals between performances were filled with pulsing, wordless music.

The atmosphere changed palpably when Chin stood up. She requested that the music be stopped, explaining that she wanted the audience to take time to appreciate silence. Chin was by no means an old woman (late 30s), but she was concerned with the ubiquity of background music and noise in present-day America. She wondered aloud whether people of the generation to which most Middlebury students belong ever experience silence.

In a way, that comment reflected the mood of the whole evening. A keen awareness of context — historical, cultural, and personal — pervaded Chin's performance. Twice during the performance, she read excerpts from her memoir, *The Other Side of Paradise*, available in bookstores next June. Both sections described her childhood in her aunt's home in Jamaica. Although the events in the memoir were far removed from the experiences of the average Middlebury student, Chin seemed to know exactly the right amount of explanation necessary to render an accessible yet detailed picture of her coming-of-age stories. Her memoirs were testament to a belief she had expressed earlier in the evening, that "There's nothing one human feels that another human

can't feel."

Chin's initial comment about Verbal Onslaught's background music was also characteristic of her writing's honesty and forthrightness. She conversed with the audience at length between poems — "conversed" rather than "lectured" because the tone of her comments was never didactic or polemical. She presented every sentence as a gift, an invitation to participate in the performance. Chin owned her poetic voice so fully that it was sometimes difficult to distinguish the beginning of a poem from the conversation that had preceded it.

That is not to say she had no points to make. Chin was unafraid to use poetry to question and refine beliefs. She read "CrossFire," a poem that leaps from personal to political to spiritual questions, reminding audiences that answers to each need not be mutually exclusive: "God is that place between belief and what you name it. / I believe holy is what you do / when there is nothing between your actions and the truth."

For Chin, politicization of poetry sometimes seemed not only possible but necessary: "Against the Odds" begins as a love poem but is derailed by the speaker's inability to forget the political and emotional reality of being alive during the Bush-Obama transition.

Chin is often classified as a "slam poet." She has appeared in poetry slams in venues from Denmark to South Africa to Broadway. However, she often bucked the stereotypes that usually accompany the label "slam poet." She self-mockingly reflected on her older, more bellicose work: "I was very fierce. I was going to...blow s\*\*t up with words."

Chin *does* write about gender issues, politics and her own heritage. However, she does so without ever becoming off-putting or self-obsessed, two fatal traps into which "slam poetry" often falls. Perhaps in part because of her interracial and intercultural heritage, Chin is wary of all labels, especially those which accompany typical definitions of rebellion.

Staceyann Chin's brief appearance at Middlebury was a huge success, almost single-handedly justifying the existence of 51 Main. Her words were as welcome and unexpected as silence.

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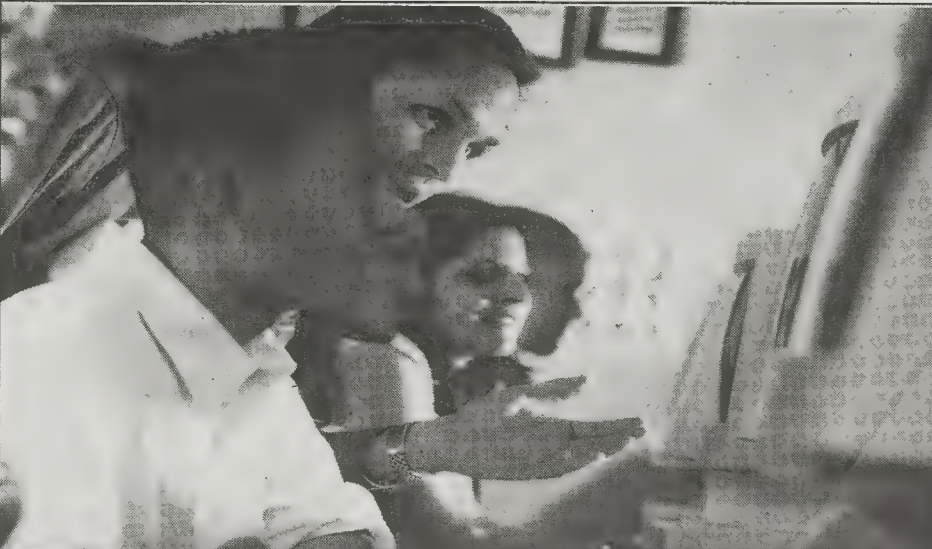
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# Graddock's late goal lifts Panthers to tourney title

By Peter Baumann  
SPORTS EDITOR

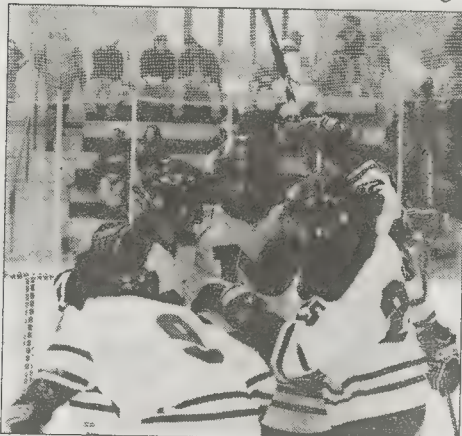
In a season of change for the Middlebury men's hockey team, one thing remains constant — the Panthers keep on winning.

A day after coming from behind to beat St. Thomas 5-3, the Panthers bested in-state rival Norwich 3-2 on Nov. 29th to take home the PrimeLink Great Northern shootout.

The title is the fourth overall for the Panthers, and with the victories they improve their record to a perfect 4-0 on the year.

Against St. Thomas, the team showed the resiliency that has become a hallmark of Middlebury teams but lacking at some points during last year's campaign. After falling behind 2-0 early in the second period, Middlebury battled back, eventually tying the game at three on a rebound goal by John Sullivan '10.

While eventual tournament MVP Doug Raeder '09 continued to stand tall in goal, the Panther offense pressured the St. Thomas back-line, eventually drawing a penalty with just under four minutes to go.



Jane Yoon

Middlebury celebrates one of its nine goals against Tufts a week before winning PrimeLink.

On the ensuing power play, Martin Drolet '12 scored the third goal of his rookie season, giving the Panthers the lead for good. An empty net tally from Jamie McKenna '09 provided the final margin.

"No matter what the circumstance was, everyone — first line through fourth line — was doing all the little things it takes to win a hockey game," said Mason Graddock '09. "We were down two goals for most of the game, but we battled and found a way to win."

The victory propelled the Panthers into the title game against Norwich, a team that had beaten the Panthers twice last year, including 5-2 in the 2007 edition of the PrimeLink shootout.

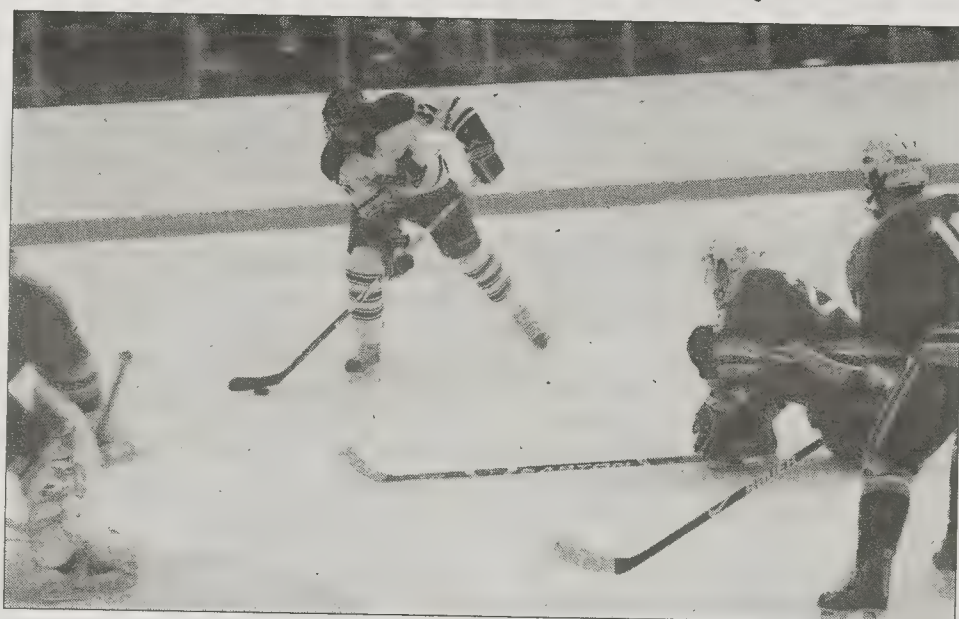
Middlebury started strong against the Cadets, with Sullivan recording his third goal of the weekend just 1:19 into the game. Middlebury controlled the play during the first period, yielding only four shots on goal in the entire frame.

A little over halfway through the second period, with Middlebury hanging to a 2-1 lead, the Panthers were dealt a seemingly precarious blow when Sullivan was given a five-minute major penalty for checking from behind — an offense which also carries with it a game misconduct.

But with one of their offensive weapons in the locker-room, the Panthers battened down the hatches during the penalty-kill, stifling the Norwich attack by forcing the Cadet attackers to the edges, a five-minute effort that resulted in one of the loudest fan eruptions Kenyon Arena has heard in years.

"When we were down a guy for five minutes Norwich only got one quality shot," said Raeder, "which is pretty impressive. Guys were shutting down lanes, blocking shots and letting me see the puck."

After giving up a power play goal midway through the third period, Middlebury



Jane Yoon

Charlie Townsend '10, pictured here against Tufts, and the Panthers captured their home tourney.

took control offensively. With less than three minutes remaining Graddock corralled a rebound near the goal line, and, displaying patience and composure waited for the goalie to drop to the ice before burying the game-winner in the upper corner.

"There was a lot of traffic in front," said Graddock about his tally, "and all I saw was the puck pop out right in front of me, so I threw it in the open net."

The goal put the Panthers ahead for good, as Raeder's strong play in goal helped the Panthers protect the lead and avenge their losses from a year ago.

The fact that Middlebury has started out 4-0 is a testament to the team's adaptability, as it is playing with a new offensive system this year that they have not utilized in years past. During the majority of head coach Bill Beaney's tenure the team has played with three defensemen and two forwards, but this year Middlebury has revert-

ed to the more traditional three forwards and two defensemen.

The idea was to create more offense, something the Panthers lacked at times last year. According to Graddock, the changes are working.

"With the new system I think guys are playing a little more free," he said. "Guys feel less constrained by the X's and O's of the system, and in that sense it has been less of a change and more of a loosening of the reins."

It is tough to argue with the results so far, with Middlebury sitting pretty after two NESCAC contests and two games against some of the top teams in the nation. What is particularly scary for future opponents is that only four games into the year, the new system is already providing offensive results — a scary proposition for any team faced with slowing down the Panthers once they truly get the hang of the setup.

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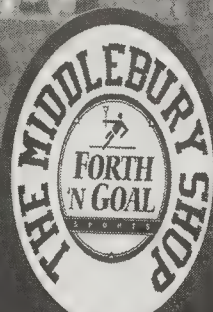
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# Middlebury Fall All-Conference Performers

## MEN'S SOCCER

PLAYER — POSITION	TEAM
Brian Bush — GK (POY)	1st
Allen Bourdon — M	1st
Corey Moffat — D	1st
Colin Nangle — D	1st
Tyler Macnee — F (ROY)	2nd
Baer Fisher — M	2nd

## WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

RUNNER	TEAM
Alexandra Krieg	1st
Cate Brown	2nd
Claire McIlvennie	2nd
Hannah Meier	2nd
Elise Moody-Roberts	2nd

## FIELD HOCKEY

PLAYER — POSITION	TEAM
Chase Delano — F	1st
Taryn Petrelli — D	1st
Heather McCormack — F	2nd

## MEN'S GOLF

GOLFER	TEAM
Jim Levins	1st
Michael McCormick	1st
Harrison Bane	2nd
Brian Cady	2nd

## FOOTBALL

PLAYER — POSITION	TEAM
Brendan Kelly — OL	1st
Andrew Matson — WR	1st
Charlie Holm — TE	1st
James Millard — KR	1st
Donnie McKillop — QB	2nd
Eric Kamback — LB	2nd
Blake Berman — OL	2nd
Tyler Owens — DB	2nd

## MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

RUNNER	TEAM
Michael Schmidt	2nd

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

PLAYER — POSITION	TEAM
Anjuli Demers — D	1st
Lindsay Rotherham — D	2nd

## VOLLEYBALL

PLAYER — POSITION	TEAM
Jane Handel — OH (ROY)	2nd

## PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
11/28 11/29	Men's Hockey	St. Thomas Norwich	5-3 W 3-2 W	Looking to avenge last season's loss to the Cadets in the same tourney, Middlebury disposed of them in the PrimeLink Shootout.
11/29 11/30	Women's Hockey	Hamilton Wesleyan	8-2 W 5-0 W	Women's hockey continued its strong start in dominating fashion, exploding for 13 goals in two games.
11/22 11/23	Men's Squash	Haverford UPenn Princeton	9-0 W 8-1 L 9-0 L	Middlebury started its roadtrip with a convincing win over Haverford before falling to UPenn and Princeton.
11/22 11/23	Women's Squash	Haverford UPenn Princeton	9-0 W 9-0 L 9-0 L	Like the men, the women started strong and feasted on Haverford before succumbing to two powerful D-I programs.
11/22 11/25	Men's Basketball	Manhattanville St. Lawrence	74-63 L 84-71 L	After racing to a 4-0 start, the Panthers slowed down a bit in two tough road losses.

## BY THE NUMBERS

5	Number of national titles now won by the women's cross country team with its latest victory in '08.
29	Total number of national titles now won by the sports teams at Middlebury College since 1995.
5	Number of times cross country coach Terry Aldrich has now won National Coach of the Year.
5	Number of goals scored by the women's hockey team in its latest shutout win over Wesleyan.
38	Number of wins by the women's hockey team over Wesleyan since 1979, compared with 0 losses and 3 ties.

## Editors' Picks



## Guest editor of the week

Questions	Peter Baumann	Emma Gardner	Jeff Klein	Papa Sports, EIC
Which Panther will lead the team in scoring when the men's basketball team travels to Union this Thursday?	<b>BEN RUDIN</b> The senior point guard will call his own number enough to lead the team to a victory.	<b>BEN RUDIN</b> I am not sure what Peter means, but I have confidence in his answer.	<b>AARON SMITH</b> Other than a 6'10 freshman who has not seen action this year, Union's tallest players are 6'5. Smith will feast down low.	<b>KYLE DUDLEY</b> Once he recalibrates his three-point shot to accommodate for the increased distance, the senior will light do big things in Schenectady.
Which Panther will lead the team in scoring when women's basketball travels to Union this Thursday?	<b>EMILY JOHNSON</b> Like her counterpart Rudin, Johnson will take control of the Panther offense.	<b>KAITLYN FALLON</b> At 6'0, I want to see a "slam dunk" performance from Fallon.	<b>ASHLEY BARRON</b> This senior with the sweet stroke will light it up against the Dutchwomen.	<b>EMILY JOHNSON</b> She's in Mecham-taught political science class. That should be enough.
Which Panther will tally the most assists when the women's hockey team does battle with Amherst this Saturday?	<b>ANNMARIE CELLINO</b> Like it has done her entire career, the Middlebury offense will flow through Cellino's stick.	<b>ANNMARIE CELLINO</b> Because she has bullied me into saying so. Just kidding, #15.	<b>MOLLY VITT</b> I need to keep giving different answers than Peter to make up ground on him.	<b>MAGGIE MELBERG</b> #22 will have two goals and two assists (at least) this weekend.
Who will win the college football national championship?	<b>FLORIDA GATORS</b> And they will do it in a shootout with the Oklahoma Sooners. 120 points is not out of the question.	<b>OKLAHOMA SOONERS</b> I still don't know what a Sooner is, but it's the only team I have seen play this season.	<b>ALABAMA CRIMSON TIDE</b> This program has really revived itself and I expect it to finish out the season on top.	<b>MIDDLEBURY PANTHERS</b> It's never too late to bet on the Middlebury football team.
Which team, if any, will finish with the best regular season record in the NFL?	<b>NY GIANTS</b> Antonio Pierce played remarkably well Sunday for someone who two days earlier was trying to dispose of a concealed weapon in New Jersey...	<b>NY GIANTS</b> J-E-T-S, JETS JETS ... oops, wrong team.	<b>NY GIANTS</b> Like the Patriots last year, the Giants will finish with the best regular-season record. Unlike the Pats, the G-Men will also win when it counts.	<b>TENNESSEE TITANS</b> I just don't like the Giants. That's all.
<b>Career Record</b>	<b>78-58 (.574)</b>	<b>21-24 (.467)</b>	<b>46-50 (.479)</b>	<b>16-24 (.400)</b>





by Jeff Klein

It seems like all we've been hearing about recently in NBA-related news is the hype surrounding LeBron James and his free agency in 2010. When the New York Knicks recently engaged in a salary-shredding series of trades that saw them part with two of their highest paid players, Jamal Crawford and Zack Randolph, sports analysts inevitably began voicing in one form or another this simple assertion: the Knicks were freeing up the necessary cap space to snag LeBron in 2010.

This is almost certainly true. I mean, why else would GM Donnie Walsh trade away two of the Knicks' most talented players, thereby almost assuring that they will be playoff-irrelevant for the next two years? He's sacrificing present success in order to land the big prize a few years down the road. And while the majority of casual Knicks fans are salivating over the prospect of seeing LeBron as a mainstay in the Big Apple, this Knicks fan shares the opposing view. I don't want LeBron on the Knicks.

Personally, I think LeBron is overrated, which is an assertion anathema to most basketball enthusiasts. But hear me out. He's an extremely erratic shooter (did you watch the first six games of last year's Eastern Conference Semifinals versus the Celtics?), an average defender at best, and often makes the rest of his team's offense stagnant while he goes one-on-one against three defenders. And as my buddy Spencer McIntosh so accurately put it in his blog, "Ferocious dunks and leaping ability do not encompass 100% of the package." In other words, a player must possess more than flash in order to help his team win.

I'm not saying he's not an incredibly talented basketball player, just that listening to his adoring fans talk about him, you'd think he was better than MJ and Kobe combined. He's not even close to being better than either of those two.

But this isn't the only reason I'm against LeBron coming to the Big Apple. I don't want him in a Knicks uniform because, to me, he's not a Knick. He's a Cleveland Cavalier. When a franchise player spends a significant period of time with one team, building up a relationship with his teammates and fan base, he basically becomes inextricably linked with that team. In the process, fans of rival teams grow to hate that player (of course, I say hate in the context of athletic competition, not as a person). Do you think diehard Spurs fans, after watching their team battle time and time again against Kobe's Lakers in the playoffs, would want to see Kobe head south to San Antonio? How about the Maverick faithful — are they just itching to lure D-Wade to Dallas, after he pulverized the Mavs (or was the beneficiary of every single foul call; take your pick) in the 2006 NBA Finals? I say "no" and "no." Better yet, let's take an example from the Knicks themselves. Flash back to the mid-1990s: do you think die-hard Knicks fans would have been open to Knick-killer Reggie Miller donning the orange and blue if he had become a free agent during that time? Please, Reggie, for all his talent — and because of all his talent — was the player Knicks fans loved to hate.

Even though I personally think it would be selfish of LeBron to jump ship and abandon his fans in Cleveland after all their unwavering support of him, I understand why he would leave. He wants to be in the spotlight. He wants more fame. He wants to go to a city where he'll be more marketable. New York provides all of that. So I think it's likely he will become a Knick in 2010.

I just don't want it to happen.

## Women build on impressive resume

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

captains were vitally important in taking a group of young, talented runners and molding them into national champions.

Despite the immense promise encouraged by the youth of this year's championship team, the loss of Krieg will be a tough blow for a program that has leaned on her from her first semester on campus when she finished 94th at the national meet. She went on to run at NCAAAs all four years, following her first year performance with 10th, 3rd and 6th place finishes.

Not usually prone to superlatives, coach Aldrich is effusive in his praise for Krieg.

"Alexandra has clearly established herself as one of the best runners in Middlebury's history," he said. "To have that kind of consistency in a race of the magnitude of the NCAA championships is truly incredible. There is no way to replace someone of her ability."

His sentiment is one echoed by the younger members of the team.

"I cannot say enough about how privileged I feel to have run on a team with Alexandra," said Hannah Meier '11, who finished second for

the Panthers, 39th overall. "She is an awesome role model in her dedication to training and the passion she has for running. I think that every team needs someone to look up to like Alexandra, who has immense natural talent but also works really hard to see how far she can take that talent."

While the team will truly miss Krieg, her hard work over the last four years has helped to lay a foundation for a program that seems to be growing rather than falling. Elise Moody-Roberts '12, Claire McIlvennie '12 and Margo Cramer '12 all finished in the top 100 at the NCAA meet, meaning that over half of Middlebury's scorers were first years.

The promise of competing for a national championship year-in and year-out can only help Middlebury entice the top student-athletes that the team already attracts.

"Because of Middlebury's academic reputation, beautiful campus, outstanding facilities, and geographic location, we normally see large numbers of runners interested in our team," said Aldrich. "Hopefully this success will lead to even faster student-athletes who are also aca-

demically qualified."

For now, as dynastic expectations and debates swirl about the cross-country program, team members happy to recognize themselves as part of one of the most successful teams Middlebury has fielded in any sport over the last decade. Beating second-place Calvin College by 59 points — when only 47 points separated the second- through fourth-place teams — validated the expectations generated by having such a talented group of young runners and such stable senior leadership.

"I think that is what I will remember most in ten years," said Krieg, "the feeling of transcending myself as an individual and representing and running for something greater. I'll always be able to run, but I think that almost-spiritual connection with my teammates is special."

While losing Krieg, Fox, Bemis and the other seniors will be difficult, the Panthers will return to campus next fall hungry for another shot at glory. Constantly refreshing itself with good recruiting, this is one dynasty that will refuse to run off into the sunset.

## Both squash teams beat up on Haverford

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

years, played tremendous matches against Hamilton at our home opener," said tri-captain Caroline Woodworth '09. "It was the perfect way to jump start the season."

In the men's competition, the outcome of the tournament came down to the last two matches with a score of 4-3 in Middlebury's favor, and fans crowded the front of the courts for a glimpse at



Courtesy

The men's and women's squash teams were in action two weekends ago against tough opponents.

the final matches. Lysohir and co-captain J.P. Sardi '09 battled side by side against their individual opponents, remaining tied up in heated competition until Sardi defeated Hamilton top player John Dewitt in five games. Lysohir followed suit soon after with another five game win, solidifying the Middlebury victory.

As the Panthers faced a challenging weekend ahead against some of the top players in the country, head coach John Illig encouraged his team to regard the matches with perspective and enjoy the opportunity to "play some of the best squash of our careers," said Lysohir.

"For both the men and the women, it was a non-pressure weekend given that of the four teams we faced, two are much stronger and two are much weaker than we are," said Illig. "Going into the weekend we pretty much knew what to expect."

The round against Columbia produced unsurprising results, as the men earned a 9-0 shutout over the Lions while the women came away with an 8-1 victory. Producing another decisive win over Haverford the next day, the Panthers continued to travel across Pennsylvania to compete at UPenn's Ringe Squash Courts. Although they knew that their chances of defeating the second-

ranked Quakers were slim, the women entered the competition in high spirits, hoping to sharpen their skills and learn from their competitors.

"We were up against the top teams in the nation and although we were outmatched through the lineup, everyone played well and learned about areas of the game that could be improved," said tri-captain Sally Hatfield '09.

"Their dominance does not diminish the value of their competition for us," added tri-captain Brooke Farquhar '08.5.

Sardi gave a tough performance against UPenn's 36th nationally-ranked Mark Froot, winning the first two games before dropping the next three. He continued to put up a fight the next day against Princeton as he captured the first game of four against 20th-ranked Kelly Shannon.

"It's shaping up to be an outstanding year for both squash teams," said Illig. "For the second half of the season, the men's team will return two starting players from abroad in Eliot Jia '10 and Simon Keyes '10, and key starter Micah Wood '10, who has just finished post-season soccer."

As the season progresses, the Panthers will no doubt continue to prove that despite its youth the Middlebury squash program aims high and competes with passion.

## Panthers lose tough game on penalty kicks

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

penalty kick clinched the first match against Framingham State on Nov. 15. Middlebury led in shots 25-4 in regulation but sealed the victory in PKs with the kick from Pitney, who made his first collegiate start in the game.

The Panthers' defensive line was ravaged by injury throughout the tournament. "The team did an incredible job of overcoming our injuries," said tri-captain Brian Bush '09. "Nolan [Lincoln '09], Otis and Brooks did an outstanding job and we did not allow the change of players to alter our confidence or our game plan. The consistency of our defense, particularly given the injuries, speaks to the depth of our team."

In the regional final against Norwich on Nov. 16 Middlebury was a paradigm of superior offensive production, holding an 11-1 advantage in shots and 13-0 in corner kicks. The win ultimately resulted from the persistent effort of first-year midfielder Robbie Redmond '12, who muscled his way for a goal in the 83rd minute.

The Nov. 22 Carleton game saw the Panther squad in top form. A late goal from Tyler Macnee '12 iced a match in which Middlebury ruled the field offensively and shut down Carleton defensively.

"I think beating Carleton was the best part of the tournament," said tri-captain Allen Bourdon '08.5. "It was a time when the team played well and really showed that we were better than them. We really came together and had all the confidence in the world."

The Panthers ultimately fell with a 4-3 loss in penalty kicks to Stevens Institute. The Middlebury squad dominated much of the play with solid two-touch movement throughout the field.

An unfortunate goal came early on for Stevens and kept the Panthers on their toes going into the second half.

"The team stepped up and definitely held our own, especially after giving up a soft goal," said Bourdon. "I think we could have been a little more creative offensively and kept the ball a little more, but overall it was a decent performance."

Fisher scored the equalizer in the 64th minute with a well-placed shot to the lower 90, while the rest of regulation and two overtimes resulted in a stalemate.

"We've been quite successful over the past two years in PKs because of both our ability to bury our shots and Brian's fantastic reflexes," said Fisher. "As a result, we felt ready for PKs once the games ended in ties." Unfortunately, luck was not with the Panthers

and Stevens keeper Zach Carr made two clutch saves to send his team to the semifinals.

Despite the rough loss, the captains are both proud of the successful season and optimistic for the future of the squad.

"As a senior this year, it was a surreal feeling to approach each tournament game knowing it could be our last," said Bush. "The strong performances by all of the underclassmen say volumes about the future of the program. The success we had in the tournament this year should give the team great confidence heading into next season."



Sophia Perlman

not with the Panthers Rookie Otis Pitney '12 helped drive the men's soccer team to the round of 8.



Panther power-plays bring home victory

sportsbriefs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

among six players. With Hamilton earning the first tally on the scoreboard ten minutes into the first period, the tone of the game was uncertain from the start. Penalties plagued the Hamilton squad as the Panthers' strong line remained on the offensive for most of the period, earning eleven shots on goal against the Continentals' two. Nakamura battled back from the lost goal, netting back-to-back goals within less than one minute, to put the Panthers on top. Julia Ireland '11 followed in hot pursuit less than three minutes later, sending the puck into the net after latching onto a pass from Molly Vitt '09 in the right circle.

Powerplays played an essential role in Middlebury's performance against both Hamilton and Wesleyan, and formed a key element in the Panthers' strategy. With seven out of 13 goals earned on power-plays, the women effectively capitalized on opportunities to score. "Our power-play has made great strides and this weekend they were outstanding,"

said Nakamura. "Molly and Julia were like two peas in a pod — their chemistry was really great all weekend."

Though Hamilton's Kathryn Kroleski managed to slide one in past goalkeeper Lani Wright '10 on a rebound in the middle of the second period, the Panthers sealed the outcome of the game early on with a combina-

Our power-play has made great strides and this weekend they were outstanding.

—Erika Nakamura '09

tion of strong offensive play and stellar goaltending, as Wright blocked all but two out of 24 shots on goal. Sunday's match against Wesleyan further demonstrated the Panthers' ability for consistent performance and hard work. Middlebury played a clean game and came out on top once again, denying the Cardinals a win for the 41st straight time since 1979.

With goals from Ireland, Vitt and Nakamura as well as senior Annmarie Cellino '09, the women proved their staying power with overwhelming skill.

Middlebury remains the team to beat this winter, as head coach Bill Mandigo reminded his team as they prepared for the two games. "He told us going into the weekend that our team now has a bull's eye on its back and everyone is out to get us," noted Nakamura. The pressure worked to drive the Panthers into high gear, and the women hope to continue their streak as they enter their home opener weekend against opponents Conn. College and Amherst.

"Hopefully we can have a good game against Connecticut College and carry that momentum over to the game against Amherst," said Cellino. "Amherst is the team to beat in the NESCAC, so it should be a pretty exciting game."

"Amherst has turned into our NESCAC rival; I can't wait to match up with them on Saturday," added Nakamura. "We'd like to end the semester on a good note before we leave for break."

Women's basketball wins two, drops one

By Brian Swenson  
STAFF WRITER

After a strong performances against Williams and Springfield and a tough loss to Norwich, the Middlebury women's basketball team's record now sits at an even 3-3. The Panthers went undefeated in the Williams Tip-Off Classic, gaining wins against the host Ephs as well as the Springfield College Pride.

Middlebury displayed a dominant performance in its victory over Williams, defeating the Ephs for the first time since 2001. The Panthers put four players in double digits for scoring on the night. Emily Johnson '09 and Ashley Barron '09, the team's starting guards and co-captains, had 17 and 15 points respectively. Guard Alana Wall '10 also had 16 points coming off the bench. Forward Kaitlyn Fallon '10 had a dominant

night on the glass, pulling down 12 rebounds and scoring 16 points, which resulted in her first double-double of the season. The Panthers shot over 40 percent from the floor and behind the arc, a key part of their 86-75 victory.

Whereas in the previous game Middlebury's offense was the focal point, the defense had to get the job done in a narrow victory over Springfield 61-58. The Panthers had a rough night from the floor, shooting only 32.8 percent.

Strong defensive efforts came from Johnson, who finished with a game high 19 points as well as four steals, and Barron, who made up for a poor night of shooting by leading the team with four assists and five steals. Alison Wells '11 also had a strong defensive performance off the bench, blocking three shots and getting two steals in 17 minutes of play.

The team was also helped by a great offensive performance by rookie Brittany Perfetti '12, who scored 10 points on four of six shooting, including two three-pointers. After being down 29-27 at the half, the Panthers came alive in the second stanza, outscoring the Pride by five and sealing the victory.

Commenting on the two victories, Barron stated, "The team has done an outstanding job running the floor and getting out on the fast

break." She also lauded "the team's patience in our new offense," claiming that it "has also been a great addition to our success in the beginning of the season."

On Nov. 25th, the Panthers suffered their first home loss to a strong Norwich team, 79-70. Middlebury held Norwich in check for the first half, leading at the break 33-31. In the second half, the Norwich offense came alive, as the Cadets shot a blistering 56.3 percent from the floor and outscored the Panthers by 11. The normally disciplined Middlebury squad had 26 turnovers in the game.

"We played good defense, but when a team gets hot from the field and hits key shots, there is nothing you can do to stop that," said Barron. Allison Needham '11 scored a team high 14 points and Wells scored 13 points coming off the bench.

Reflecting on the tough loss, Barron also noted: "we learn from games like that and remain confident in our ability to be a tough competitor in every single match we meet this season."

Additionally, co-captain Johnson earned NESCAC player of the week after averaging 20.7 points, 3.3 rebounds and 3.7 assists in the 3-0 run Middlebury had against Lyndon State, Williams and Springfield.

Terry Aldrich named National Coach of the Year

Middlebury cross country coach Terry Aldrich has been named National Coach of the Year, capping off an incredible season that saw his women's team rise from being ranked 14th at the beginning of the year to a national championship. The award is the fifth for Aldrich, who was also named the New England Coach of the Year two weeks ago.

The national championship was the fifth for the women's cross country team this decade, solidifying its place as one of Middlebury's most consistent teams. Aldrich's squads won the 2000, 2001, 2003, and 2006 national championships, with Aldrich winning NESCAC, New England and National Coach of the Year during each of the championship seasons.

Aldrich has been involved in Middlebury athletics for over 30 years, serving as cross country and ski coach before becoming the Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Event Management two years ago. He still serves as a member of the NCAA ski Committee, where he has been the rules editor since 1988.

This year stands as one of his most impressive coaching jobs because of the young roster that he molded into champions. Of the seven runners that the Panthers took to Nationals, all except for one were sophomores and first-years, and of the five scorers, three were first-year runners.

— Peter Baumann, Sports Editor

Delano '11, Petrelli '09 earn All-American accolades

Middlebury Field Hockey players Chase Delano '11 and Taryn Petrelli '09 were named All-American honors by the National Field Hockey Coaches Association. Delano earned first-team honors during only her second season on campus, while Petrelli capped off a successful four-year career with a second-team selection.

Delano's 27 goals and seven assists were good enough for 61 points — the most by a single player in Middlebury history. Her 1.5 goals per game were good enough for second in the NESCAC, and she scored in all but three games on the season. She was a key component to a Panther offense that finished second in the NESCAC in goals per game.

Unlike Delano, Petrelli did not post gaudy statistics on the season, finishing with only a single assist on the year, but she anchored a Middlebury defense that stood strong against some of the best offenses in the nation. Rarely coming forward to join the attack, Petrelli was content to be a rock on the back-line, organizing the defense and using her wealth of knowledge and experience to act as a coach-on-the-field. The selection was the first for her following three straight All-NESCAC selections.

— Peter Baumann, Sports Editor

Handel '12 named All-American in first season

Middlebury volleyball player Jane Handel '12 has been named an Honorable Mention All-American following her first-year campaign. The accolade comes on top of being named to the All-NESCAC second-team as well as garnering NESCAC Rookie of the Year honors.

The first-year outside hitter was often the focal point of the Panther attack, leading the squad with 3.55 kills per game. She also recorded 265 digs on the year, proving that she has the versatility to step into the role vacated by teammate Lindsay Patterson '08.5.

Handel was one of only seven NESCAC players to be named any level of All-American.

— Peter Baumann, Sports Editor

The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	11/20	Team	Cap's Comments
1	5	Women's Cross Country	Watch out America, the quiet dynasty only had one upperclassman at the National Championships.
2	1	Men's Hockey (4-0)	The tryptophan didn't slow them down as the men take the Primelink shootout and start 4-0.
3	2	Women's Hockey (4-0-1)	Undefeated against Wesleyan since 1979, that's a more lopsided matchup than eager first-years against the Mecham PS103 final exam.
4	—	Squash (M: 3-2, W: 3-2)	Good start for both squads except against Princeton. That's okay, the Tigers would kill our mathletes too.
5	—	Men's Basketball (4-2)	Started season strong (4-0) but tapered off towards the end; sounds like my performance at the dinner table on Turkey Day.
6	—	Women's Basketball (4-3)	Ran away from Castleton in OT, just like I will from Twilight after my last ever self-scheduled exam.
7	7	Swimming & Diving	Slow start for both teams is alright because it's a good year for swimming; Michael Phelps named SI Sportsman of the Year.
8	3	Men's Soccer (15-2-4)	Finish eighth in the country, and eighth in the Great Eight, but first in our hearts.



File Photo

Alexandra Krieg '09 and the women's cross country team finish the fall sports season atop the Great Eight.



## Women's cross country captures fifth NCAA title

By Peter Baumann  
SPORTS EDITOR

No one is quite sure how to define a dynasty. While certain transcendent eras, such as that of the UCLA Bruins in the 1970s, undoubtedly qualify, others are less obvious — with often amorphous beginnings and uncertain ends. But by whatever standard one uses, we can say beyond a shadow of a doubt that the Middlebury women's cross country team is at the peak of a dynastic period. Including this year the team has now won five of the last nine NCAA championships, capturing the most recent title by an unheard-of margin of 59 points.

It is difficult to characterize the team's 2008 season. On one hand, the team ushered in a new age by relying heavily on youth. Easily the most dominant team at the majority of the meets, the Panthers enjoyed their success on the backs of first and second year runners. Of the seven runners Middlebury took to the NCAA Championship meet,

only one was an upperclassman.

"Normally coaches want teams with upperclassmen, who have had the experience of running in previous NCAA Championship meets and have developed the broad endurance base to allow them to build a high and stable peak," said coach Terry Aldrich when asked about his young team. "What our first-years and sophomores did was truly amazing."

Any time a team enjoys such vibrant results from its young runners, however, there is usually a strong contingent of senior leadership showing them the way to success. This year's Panthers were no different.

Tri-captains Hallie Fox '09, Alexandra Krieg '09 and Charlotte Bemis '09 led both on and off the course. From providing their younger teammates with insight into strategy and mental toughness to helping set the pace, the three



Led by Alexandra Krieg '09, the women's cross country team won the NCAA title by a dominating 59 points. Courtesy

SEE WOMEN, PAGE 22

### THE CAMPUS ROOKIE OF THE FALL SEASON:



Sophia Perlman

#### TYLER MACNEE

Based on the votes of *The Campus* sports editors, Tyler Macnee '12 has been named Rookie of the Fall. Macnee started all 21 games for the Panthers, recording 13 goals on the season, ten more than the next Middlebury scorer. His 13 goals included six game winners, and his .224 shooting percentages led the team. He also finished second in the NESCAC in goals, points and shots-per-game. His offense helped spark a Middlebury team already loaded with back-line players to an impressive NCAA tournament run. His goal 82 minutes into the NCAA sectional semifinal contest against Carleton turned out to be the game-winner, sending the Panthers into their tilt with Stevens the next day.

#### TOP VOTE-GETTERS

Tyler Macnee — M. Soccer	8
Jane Handel — Volleyball	7
Michael Schmidt — XC	2
Elise Moody-Roberts — XC	1

\*Players received three points for a first place vote, two for a second and one for a third.

## Women's hockey wins two in conference

By Emma Gardner  
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite returning from Thanksgiving break early to log twelve hours on the bus last weekend, the women's hockey team had much to be thankful for after beating Hamilton 8-2 on Nov. 29 and earning a shutout over Wesleyan 5-0 on Nov. 30. The Panthers are working hard this season to regain their status as a Division-III powerhouse and have so far produced an undefeated 4-0-1 record.

While many of the women returned home for a brief stay on Thanksgiving, each continued to prepare mentally and physically for the weekend ahead, knowing that the team faced two tough games against conference opponents.

"This was our first league weekend on the road," said Erika Nakamura '09. "It was a tough schedule, but we knew what we were getting into and were very well prepared."

The women considered their opponents from all angles in de-

veloping their strategy, focusing on broad game plans as well as details such as rink size and the styles of the respective Hamilton and Wesleyan goalkeepers.

"Hamilton has a tiny rink, and we haven't played great at their rink in the past, so that was in the back

of my mind," said Nakamura. Still, this year's first matchup proved successful for the Panthers as they toppled the Continentals in a solid victory that saw a strong effort from Middlebury across the board, as the eight goals were divided

SEE PANTHER, PAGE 23

## Squash teams show grit on the courts

By Emma Gardner  
SPORTS EDITOR

In only the second year of their tutelage under head coach John Illig, the Middlebury squash teams have proven they have what it takes to compete alongside some of the best in the country, as each owns a record of 3-2 thus far. After winning their home openers against Hamilton with scores of 6-3 for the men and 8-1 for the women, the Panthers attacked a busy Thanksgiving

weekend against Columbia, Haverford, UPenn and Princeton, with both the men and women producing two wins and two losses over several days of intense play.

The Panthers kicked off the season on a high note, defeating Hamilton for the first time since the Continentals handed the men's team tough losses at last year's NESCAC championship and Team Nationals tournament.

"We were really excited to have the opportunity to play Hamilton at home and to avenge our two losses to them last year," said men's co-captain Jack Lysohir '08.5

The 18th-ranked women dominated the courts, beating the 15th-ranked Hamilton squad by seven matches with impressive performances from the team's rookies.

"All of the girls, especially the incoming first-



Courtesy

J.P. Garafalo '12 whips a serve against Columbia.

SEE BOTH, PAGE 22



File Photo / Sophia Perlman

The men's soccer team, seen here during the NESCAC tournament, made it to the Elite Eight of NAAs before falling to Stevens on penalty kicks.

## Men's soccer falls to Stevens in sectionals

By Kevin Carpenter  
STAFF WRITER

Despite a valiant run in the NCAA Division III tournament, the men's soccer team was denied a win by Stevens Institute on Nov. 23, dropping the Sectional finals match in penalty kicks after playing to a 1-1 tie in regulation.

Each game prior to the matchup was nothing short of riveting. The team's run included three wins — one via penalty kicks and two resulting from late goals. The Panthers finish their season with a 15-2-4 record, racking up the second-most wins in

school history.

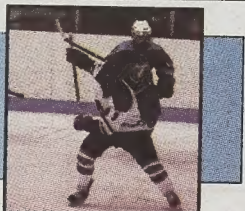
As the team has learned, a run to a back-to-back national championship is an extremely challenging endeavor. "I don't think there is much we could have done better," said tri-captain Baer Fisher '09. "We learned last year that you need to be both really good and lucky in order to win an NCAA Championship, and unfortunately we weren't lucky on Sunday night."

The Panthers found a lucky strike in the foot of Otis Pitney '12, whose

SEE PANTHERS, PAGE 22

### this week in sports

**Men's Hockey**  
Team avenges loss to Norwich, captures PrimeLink Great Northern Shootout, page 20.



**game to watch**  
Women's hockey vs. Amherst  
Saturday, Dec. 6 at 12 p.m.



**Women's Basketball**  
Team defeats Williams and Springfield before falling to Norwich, page 21.